

SEVEN DAYS

**NEED
WORK?**

145 jobs in
Classifieds



THE Winter Reading ISSUE

LEAVE IT TO BEAVERS?

PAGE 14

UVM versus dam wildlife



TOME TACTICS

PAGE 20

Indie bookstores adaptations



AUTHOR, AUTHOR

PAGE 22

New books by six Vermont writers

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10/13/10	ALICE BROWN	101 OAK ST
10/14/10	CHARLIE GREEN	202 BIRCH ST
10/15/10	DAVID WHITE	303 SAGE ST
10/16/10	EVE BLACK	404 HICK ST
10/17/10	FRANK GRAY	505 MAPLE ST
10/18/10	GRACE HARRIS	606 CYPRESS ST
10/19/10	HERB KANE	707 WALNUT ST
10/20/10	IVY LYNN	808 CHERRY ST
10/21/10	JACK MANN	909 PEAR ST
10/22/10	JILL PETERSON	1010 PLUM ST
10/23/10	JOHN ROSS	1111 BERRY ST
10/24/10	JUDY SCOTT	1212 RASPBERRY ST
10/25/10	KEN TAYLOR	1313 STRAWBERRY ST
10/26/10	KIM WALKER	1414 BLACKBERRY ST
10/27/10	LEO YOUNG	1515 CRANBERRY ST
10/28/10	LUCY ZIMMERMAN	1616 LOGANberry ST
10/29/10	MARY ANN	1717 HOPBERRY ST
10/30/10	MIKE BAKER	1818 GOOSEBERRY ST
10/31/10	NANCY CAMPBELL	1919 ELMberry ST
11/01/10	OLIVER DAVIS	2020 PINEberry ST
11/02/10	PATRICIA FOSTER	2121 OAKberry ST
11/03/10	RAYMOND GIBSON	2222 BIRCHberry ST
11/04/10	SARAH HENRY	2323 SAGEberry ST
11/05/10	STEVE IRVING	2424 HICKberry ST
11/06/10	SUE KELLY	2525 MAPLEberry ST
11/07/10	TOM LAMONTAGNE	2626 CYPRESSberry ST
11/08/10	TRACY MCGUIRE	2727 WALNUTberry ST
11/09/10	WILLIAM NELSON	2828 CHERRYberry ST
11/10/10	WENDY OLIVER	2929 PEARberry ST
11/11/10	Xavier PETERSON	3030 PLUMberry ST
11/12/10	YVONNE ROSS	3131 BERRYberry ST
11/13/10	ZACHARY SCOTT	3232 RASPBERRYberry ST
11/14/10	ADAM TAYLOR	3333 STRAWBERRYberry ST
11/15/10	ALICE WALKER	3434 BLACKBERRYberry ST
11/16/10	BENJAMIN YOUNG	3535 CRANBERRYberry ST
11/17/10	CHARLOTTE ZIMMERMAN	3636 LOGANberry ST
11/18/10	DANIEL ANN	3737 HOPBERRYberry ST
11/19/10	EMMA BAKER	3838 GOOSEBERRYberry ST
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12/03/10	MIKE SCOTT	5252 RASPBERRYberry ST
12/04/10	NANCY TAYLOR	5353 STRAWBERRYberry ST
12/05/10	OLIVER WALKER	5454 BLACKBERRYberry ST
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12/13/10	WILLIAM GIBSON	6262 BIRCHberry ST
12/14/10	WENDY HENRY	6363 SAGEberry ST
12/15/10	Xavier IRVING	6464 HICKberry ST
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7

FEEDback

READER REACTION TO RECENT ARTICLES

FOOD WITHOUT FEAR

I applaud Anna August's support of on-farm slaughter (Feedback, "Truth or Consequences," December 12), and I agree that Vermonters must do everything within their power to resist the erosion of our state's neighbor-to-neighbor food relationships [A Kinder Kill, November 21]. However, there is a tragic irony inherent in her conclusion that drawing attention to local food-sourcing practices risks provoking regulatory oversight, and it is this. Until these practices are either made legal or seen as a level of critical mass that insulates regulators are unable to confront, the "authentic" food relationships August champions will continue to be the precursor of a lucky few with the necessary connections to source these products. There's a word for such an arrangement: exclusivity.

I urge August and any other Vermonter who believes strongly in full access to the foods of their choosing not to accept the notion that they must live in fear of a flawed food regulatory environment and enforcement agencies. To do so is to quietly acquiesce to the unfair arrangements that impact us all.

Don Hewitt
CAIRO

HOMELESS STORY

This is a really interesting article, on a timely topic relevant to a wide audience [The Burlington's Library Becomes a Haven for the Homeless, Librarian Adapts to a Changing Job, December 12]. You answered my questions as they occurred to me and maintained a tone that was respectful to all involved. Thank you.

Edwina Paeper
CHARLOTTE

FIGHTING WORDS

While I appreciate the focus and importance of the piece presented in "Lies in the Sun" [Our Game, December 5], I take great issue with the tone of its introduction. Paul Heston's reference to "blue laws" is arrogant, disrespectful, patronizing and dismissive; if he had taken even a few minutes to chat with the elders in attendance, he would have discovered hundreds of years of valuable and life-changing experiences that are an integral part of our community. Heston would have learned a bit about empathy and the residents' collective wisdom. I believe this would have led to a more credible and compassionate tone in his article.

Jacky De Foa
SOUTH BURLINGTON

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GO, GAMACHE

I loved Ben Ballinger's piece on the Gamache dairy farm ("Stock in Vermont," December 5).

Heidi Pike
WATERFORD

REMAKE MORAN

[The "What We Know" (November 25) landing page suggests that Burlington needs an economic investment on the waterfront, reminding me of my favorite Mount Pleasant idea. Because the south-facing, L-shaped building in glass to create a sweeping, tall, crystalline greenhouse. Fill it with clear-styled ledges of tomato plants, strawberries, green peppers and sunflowers. Grow trout freshwater fish in huge ponds on the ground floor, which can provide food and moisture for the hydroponic fruits and vegetables.]

An architecturally stunning, year-round, fish-and-vegetable farm on the Burlington waterfront could be the world-class symbol of the city that movement levers an ecology it would embody Vermont's commitment to sustainability and Burlington's reputation for outstanding food. What more symbolic a statement than turning an ugly 20th-century behemoth of consumption into a sleek 21st-century symbol of sustainability?

The idea is not far-fetched. Street Water Depots of Milwaukee has done it. But Burlington has one up on them. The Milwaukee greenhouse is not heated where a rooftop restaurant and hourly beers are likely to bring summertime thrills. As for winter, remember that even when it's cold and snowy, greenhouses are warm, moist and green.

Cynthia Norman
BURLINGTON

LOOK TO CLEVELAND

So there are two long-standing opportunities to hire "What We Know" (November 25) and follow on the recent Seven Days staff off. First, a zoo. Why not turn the Noyes Place into a main cat forest or other environment? It doesn't need to be like the Bronx Zoo, or Menlo Park. We certainly can do as well as Cleveland's modest structure, which transformed the dreary zoo from my childhood into a small, world-class zoo. And it's a natural to join RCHD Lake Aquarium and Science Center on the waterfront.

Second, Winozki is the perfect location for a "food busser." All of the vacant storefronts can be divided into themed stalls and mini-markets. The land at the west end of Champlain Mill is an ideal location for a two-story building: restaurants or offices on the second floor and a year-round farmers market on the ground floor. "Garage" doors that open up in warm weather would allow each vendor to have selling space facing

both a central interior hall and the outside. European cafes, Seattle and, yes, Cleveland, do it. Why not here? We have a wealth of entrepreneurs with both local and international market experience to make such a venture vibrant and attractive. City Market could take the lead, anchoring the area with its second store. There's a parking garage and idea to improve the pedestrian crossing problem. What are we waiting for? This one is a no-brainer.

Anne Liske
WINOZKI



CORRECTIONS

There were two errors in last week's "Magical History Tour." The bodies of 1812 soldiers discovered buried under Burlington's Station and Abolition streets are now in Lakeview Cemetery, there's no burial ground on Lakeview Street, and it was during the Revolutionary War that Lake Champlain's Red Bank was subjected to shelling—not the War of 1812.

The December 5 story, "With Shovel Full, a Record Number of Vermont's Homeless Are Living in Motels," incorrectly reported that the State of Vermont gave the Committee on Temporary Shelter \$80,000 for homeless-prevention activities in 2008. The correct amount is \$81,000.

FORGET THE F-35

Don't it cross your mind that our state's governor decided to take one of the wealthiest businessmen in Burlington and two mayors to hear the F-35 (Just June, December 12)? There were no representatives from the opposition—not a very intelligent PR stunt. To make matters worse, the province said the F-35 is no longer than the F-16. Unbelievable! It is well documented that the opposite is true. If one looks at the video news footage of the jet taking off, you can see that sound meter registering 100dB—much louder than the F-16. This plane still has enormous safety issues as reported by a Postage study group and the past director of the F-35 program. That, I would think, should take precedence over the issue. Our governor and congressional delegates just don't get it. They are not directly affected, so why not use the issue of jobs, which, incidentally and curiously, has recently risen from 600 to 1300? When IBM had off more than a thousand people in past years, didn't our congressman survive? Of course they did. Our livelihood is not dependent on the Air Guard or its future projects.

Jerry Bourque
COLD-SPRINGER

FEEDBACK @ P. 25

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contents

DECEMBER 19-26, 2012 VOL. 15 NO. 18

LOOKING FORWARD

Winter Reading ISSUE!

So many words, so little time. And yet we cheerfully give you more to read every week! In this issue, our address **BOOKS** and articles are adding some! This includes **ARTICLE** pieces by Vermont writer **BRETT AAN STANCIO**, a fun **BOOK BLURB** mix-and-match and rewording-loving **WORD PUZZLES** from **Jane Heller**. In addition, we offer **MP3 NEWS** of six books from authors you may not know. **Carin Kirsch** rounds up some **FOOD** **VOLUMES**, too. **Karen Mader** checks up a **VINTAGE BOOK DEALER**. **Pamela Polston** checks in with a guide of book bloggers and finds out what local **INSTEAD BOOKS** **SALES** are doing to survive besides, you know, selling books. Oh, and a **car cover**? Hey **CRASH UNUSUAL** is back with her book club 2.0. **What better** to guide reading?

NEWS

- 14 Phone Spoken: Why Frank Pharo to the F-35's Biggest Booster**
BY KATHA J. KELLEY
- 16 UVM Sets Hill Traps for Dam-Building Beavers**
BY KATHY H. FLEGG
- 18 Weinberger Wants Year-Round Waterfront Action**
BY KATHA J. KELLEY

ARTS NEWS

- 20 Haggens Toot Bookie; Bookstores Branch Out**
BY PAMELA POLSTON
- 21 Norwich Author Pens a Novel, One EW at a Time**
BY KIKI KASSTHAN
- 22 James Kochalka Publishes a New Compilation, Radio Daily Comic Strip**
BY PAMELA POLSTON
- 23 A Vermontian's Reading Book Details the Language of the Ring**
BY DAN ROLLES

REVIEWS

- 71 Music**
Loveful Heights, Loveful Heights, Teleport, Bed for Business
- 74 Art**
"Dejected by the Wild: The Art of Chuckie Warner" the Moonshot Museum of Science
- 80 Movies**
Blackhook, Silver Linings Playbook

FEATURES

- 30 Fiction: Hidden View**
Winter Reading Issue
BY BRETT AAN STANCIO
- 32 Meet the Authors**
Winter Reading Issue
Six local writers you may not have read yet — but should
BY MARGOT JARROLD, MEGAN JAMES & PAMELA POLSTON
- 36 It's All a Blurp**
Winter Reading Issue
Who pressed which Vermont book to the side?
BY MARGOT JARROLD
- 38 Cryptic Connections**
Winter Reading Issue
Jane Heller's word puzzles keep us guessing
BY MEGAN JAMES
- 41 The Shopper**
Holidays: Giving vs. Doing as it Dies
BY DAN ROLLES
- 43 Seven Days Sex Survey 2013**
- 46 Soup du Jour**
Food: Where to find a great soup to go in Burlington?
Seven Days does a taste test
BY COURTNEY CRISP, CAROLYN FEN STONE, MADEIRA & ALICE LEVITT
- 50 Words to Chew On**
Food: Three flavorful local foodie books from 2012
BY CARIN KIRSCH
- 64 Scene Poll**
Music: Local musicians weigh in on the best music of 2012
BY DAN ROLLES

COLUMNS

- 12 Fair Game**
Open houses on Vermont politics
BY PAUL HINTZ
- 26 Whiskey Tango Foxtrot**
We just had to tell...
BY BEN PIERCE
- 28 Work**
Vermonters on the job
BY KATHA J. KELLEY
- 47 Side Dishes**
Food news
BY CORIN HERSCH & ALICE LEVITT
- 65 Soundbites**
Music: lyrics and more
BY DAN ROLLES
- 89 Mistress Move**
Women's guide to love and lust
BY MISTRESS HAYES

STUFF TO DO

- 11 The Magnificent 7**
- 52 Calendar**
- 60 Classes**
- 64 Music**
- 74 Art**
- 80 Movies**

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 renderings. **"Regulated by the Wild:
 The Art of Charley Harper"** is cur-
 rently displayed at the Mansfield
 Museum of Science in Norwich
 (pictured, "Dollun").

SEE ART REVIEW ON PAGE 16

②
FRIDAY 21
STORIES
THROUGH
SONG

FRIDAY 21

STORIES THROUGH SONG

They say it pays to try new things. For participants in the Playto new Adult Cabaret Program, the reward is a night in the limelight. After auditioning these students of the craft honed both ensemble work and solo skills, Piero Bonarota directs the group—who are now performers—in *An Evening of Cabaret*.

SEE FLYING LISTINGS ON PAGE 52

③—
FRIDAY 21

PAGE 21

Bridging the Gap

if classical musicians playing live and sing count like a strait jacket, please probably never heard of the **Swire String Quartet**. The group's last media performance included original music, and arrangements along with spirited interpretations of modern hits. This year's hot day series, "Christmas in Paris," includes selections from the concert, Robert Huggs and The Bluecore, a traditional French lament and video tribute and the 1959 movie.

SEE CALENDAR LISTINGS ON PAGE 10

④

SATURDAY 22: MONDAY 24.8.

WEDNESDAY 26

Making History

Parties step back a bit, drafting ornaments and popping candles, as part of **Christmas at the Farm**. The craftable event celebrates all the holiday cheer that didn't get official recognition in the United States until the 1940s: the year eelgrass, ferns and conifers. On December 29, weather permitting, take a ride on horse-drawn sleighs or wagons and sled with jack-potential, or their succulent cousin, the sled.

1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 26

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WEDNESDAY 19 & WEDNESDAY 26

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SEE CALIFORNIA LISTING ON PAGE 54

⑥

FRIDAY 21

Last Hurrah

Where will you be when it all goes down? Here are some out-of-the-box productions: **End of the World Party** you may be old-fashioned at the outdoor waterfronts as dinner, but in multiple rooms play top-hat, debut at house and more, accompanied by projections and light shows. **Dark Matter** by one and body painting artist Kathera Church of *Waves in Cinema*. Close up the event.

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LAWRENCE S. FINE, EdD

A Mix of Six

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USE PUBLIC METHOD FOR PAGE 20

Guns 'n' Poses

POLITICS



Everything changed the day a crowd was broadcasting a semi-automatic rifle fired upon dozens of elementary school children.

The nation groined. Members of Congress introduced legislation to ban high-capacity magazines and semi-automatic weapons. A president who had resisted gun control measures decided to act.

The year was 1989. The scene of the crime: a Cleveland Elementary School playground in Stockton, California, where five children were killed and another 30 injured.

Three months later, a Republican congressman from Vermont named **WEND SMITH** signed on to the Democratic Assault Weapons Act of 1989. Though he'd backed gun rights when he first ran for the House the year before, Smith had a change of heart after a discussion with a high school student from Washington, DC.

"It was an important moment in my life," Smith recalls. "All the sudden I concluded there were so many elements of the gun-control discussion that were upside down."

So the National Rifle Association set its sights on the Republican congressman, spending a million dollars in the 1990 election to defeat Smith and others who backed the bill. It worked. Smith lost to a gun rights supporter who subsequently voted against the Brady Handgun Bill, which mandated federal background checks for many gun purchasers.

That year's cause? **ARMED SANDERS**. "There was absolutely no doubt in that '90 vote that the NRA got [Sanders] elected and he owed them," says **OWEN SMITH**, a former Vermont bureau chief of the Associated Press and now an executive at National Life Group.

Times have changed since 1990 — kind of.

Sanders and Sen. **PATRICK LEAHY** (D-VT), who both opposed the Brady Bill, subsequently backed the 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban and its unsuccessful reauthorization in 2005. They — and Congressman **STEVE WELCH** (D-VT) — have held mixed records on gun issues.

But the Smith episode is a seed in the memory of every Vermont politician of that era. For while Vermont may be the most liberal state in the country, its gun politics remain those of a red machine ruled by ignorance.

"Hating is an integral part of who Vermonters are, so that's why I think you

are a lot of Vermont politicians seeking not to offend on this issue," Graff says.

That may explain why, in the wake of last week's horrific school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, many of the state's most prominent politicians have been loathe to answer questions about whether new gun laws are necessary.

Republicans for Leahy, Sanders, Welch and now **PETER SHAWNEE**, who is out of the country, turned down repeated requests for interviews Monday and Tuesday. They each declined to answer specific written questions from *Seven Days* — and from the *Hartford Free Press* — about their positions on gun laws and about potential legislative responses to the Sandy Hook tragedy.

THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO DOUBT IN THAT '90 VOTE THAT THE NRA GOT [SANDERS] ELECTED AND HE OWED THEM.

CHRIS GRAFF

Instead, they offered up only apocryphal statements that fall to city well anything.

President **BARACK OBAMA** may have called for a national conversation about last week's shooting — but for these Vermont politicians, that conversation is being conducted via press release.

When *Seven Days* asked the congressional trio in January 2013 following the gunshot suicides of two Vermont teens, each declined to be interviewed, offering only statements arguing that gun laws are best left to the states. Asked by the *Vermont Standard* the following month about the Tucson shooting that left six dead and fellow House member **BARBARA BOXBORO** injured, Welch said, "I'm going to see what legislation is proposed."

But Welch's only legislative action addressing semi-automatic weapons appears to have been a letter to Attorney General **ERIC HENDER** in and 64 other House Democrats signed two years before Tucson. Hilder had suggested at a February 2009 press conference that the Obama administration might reinstate the expired assault-weapon ban.

"We believe that this ban was ineffective during the 30 years it was law and would oppose its reenactment," the

Welch-signed letter reads. "The gun control community has unconsciously misled many Americans into believing that [weapons included in the ban] are fully automatic machine guns. They are not. These firearms are one shot for every pull of the trigger."

Welch earned an "W" rating the following year from the National Rifle Association. Since then, his stock has dropped. In 2012, he earned a "C."

The success isn't beyond of Sanders, who won "C" or "A-" ratings from the NRA prior to such of his last three elections — not to mention a \$3500 check from the group in October. Asked for a copy of the NRA questionnaire Sanders filed out when seeking the group's endorsement, campaign manager **ALAN MACLEAN** claims the didn't keep one.

The voting records of Sanders and Leahy appear to be more nuanced. In the '90s, they both opposed the Brady Bill, but supported the assault weapons ban. (In a partisan reversal, former Republican senator Jim Jeffords voted for the Brady Bill.) And in recent years, they voted to allow gun owners to carry weapons on Amtrak trains and in national parks but opposed letting those with permits to carry concealed weapons in one state do so in another.

Both have recently received poor or middling grades from the NRA.

To be sure, the national discussion around gun laws — not to mention on mental-health services and violent entertainment — is only just beginning. And while a handful of gun-toting politicians outside Vermont have had "come to Jesus" moments in the days since Sandy Hook, it may take others more time to react and respond to such a traumatic event.

No matter how long it takes, the question for Vermont politicians is this: Will they risk becoming the next Peter Smith or will they buckle down and hope like hell that this too shall pass, as it did with Brockton, Columbine, Virginia Tech and Aurora?

And if they do fire back at the NRA, will voters punish or reward them?

Sen. **PHILIP SHAFER** (D-Clarendon) takes the latter. He believes Vermont's political climate has changed since Sanders' days.

"Typically, people have thought of gun control as the third rail of Vermont politics, and I think there was a time when that was true. But I think in this day and age, we've passed that," he says. "We're in grieving every four months for a mass shooting."

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I think it's gotten to the point where the electricity has been turned off as that sad, but it's a learned helplessness."

To that end, Smith says he plans to introduce legislation in the Vermont Senate in January that could restrict anti-terrorism efforts or high-capacity ammunition — or make the issue in another manner.

"I will stand by people's right to use rifles to hunt, but I'm not going to try to take the same thing or buying weapons that are designed for close-range combat to kill innocent beings," he says.

Smith wouldn't be the first to try to bolster Vermont's nearly nonexistent gun laws. When Rep. **ANDREW WHELAN** (D-Enos) sought to hold gun owners criminally negligent if their unlocked weapons caused a child's death, "it went absolutely nowhere other than to go on as the NRA website," she recalls.

Wheelan's effort followed the 2009 suicide of a constituent's 15-year-old son, **AARON KUE**, who used an unsecured gun obtained at a friends' house to kill himself.

"People felt threatened even by proposing to talk about this," she says. "It was an incredibly uncomfortable time for me to have to spend hours every day with this kind of anguish, when really I was just trying to make a point that we can do better when it comes to protecting our kids."

As it stands, Vermont has some of the most permissive gun laws in the country. The state earned an "F" from the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence and set out of 100 points from the Ready Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence.

Vermont sets no limits on the number of firearms that can be purchased at one time, nor does it impose a waiting period on gun purchases. Heck, even 16-year-olds can buy and carry concealed handguns in Vermont without their parents' permission.

HARVEY SPENCER (**SNAP** **SMITH** 10-Mondayville), who himself earned a 82 percent rating from the NRA, this year, says that while he's "open to talking with people about a 'reconsideration' of the state's gun laws, he's cognizant of the challenges involved."

"No scenario that has tried to build consensus around basically baby steps, I can tell you it is going to be difficult," he says. "People feel very strongly on both sides of the issue."

As for Smith's political analysis, Smith says the Christendom County senator raises a pretty sharp cultural — and geographic — divide.

"Philip lives in Burlington. I live in Montpelier, and I think there's a big difference of opinion depending on where you live," Smith says.

Smith's former counterpart, President Pro Tempore **JOHN CAMPBELL** (D-Windsor) agrees. A former Florida police officer

and a gun owner himself, Campbell says the first bill he introduced in the Senate — to ban straw-purchasing bullets — brought him nothing but grief from Vermont's gun lobby.

"I'll never forget someone coming up to me and saying, 'Hope you have a happy two years,'" Campbell recalls.

In the days since Andy Hook, Campbell says he's been frustrated "with people across the country trying to politicize this tragedy."

"Emotions are running high," he says. "I don't like knee-jerk reactions to issues where once a tragedy happens you say, 'I know this was the cause, so we're going to create a law to prevent it.'"

That said, following a period of reflection, Campbell thinks Vermont's gun laws may be ready for reconsideration.

"I do not see the reason for people to have assault rifles. It doesn't matter if I get an 'F' in Montpelier," he says, referring to the NRA's ratings. "And the high-capacity magazines? Unless it's law enforcement, then I don't see the reason you have to have that."

For Speaker Smith, last week's tragedy fell far closer to home. He spent his first year in Newmarket, where his father attended school. He has family friends whose children survived the shooting.

His voice cracking, Smith says, "I don't think you could see pictures of those kids and not wonder what the hell we are doing."

Twenty-three years after his own tough vote in favor of a federal ban on assault weapons, Peter Smith — Resident's recognized five — says he wouldn't have voted any differently.

"I was always proud that I stood for something and I did not regret for a minute the position I took," says Smith, who now lives in Montpelier and works for Kaplan Higher Education.

"I think this is an issue whose time has come. I know I will be supporting reasonable and thoughtful restrictions, and I urge Vermont's congressional delegation to do the same," he says. "My suspicion is they will. And my hope is they will!" ☐

Disclosure: Paul Hirsut worked as Peter Smith's communications director from November 2004 to March 2007.

Listen to Paul Wednesday mornings at 7:40 a.m. on **WVNY 630 AM**

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Plane Spoken: Why Frank Cioffi Is the F-35's Biggest Booster

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

Frank Cioffi used to fly under the radar, quietly promoting Champlain County business interests wherever it counted: Montpelier, Burlington City Hall, Washington, DC.

That is, until the leader of the Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation soared into view on the control of an F-35 fighter jet.

Cioffi, 53, has emerged as the chief champion of the Air Force option of housing up to two dozen of the warplanes at Burlington International Airport. As the head of

GBIC, he orchestrated

and helped secure financing for the recent dry-lying field trip to an air base in Florida, where Gov. Peter Shumlin and other Vermonters fans of the F-35 fanned to the response jet in action. Shumlin judged the roar of its engines to be no louder than that of the 1966 currently based in Burlington.

Cioffi has powerful political allies in his mission to land the F-35, but there's a sizable grassroots movement against the local bid down. In fact, in one public hearing earlier this year, Cioffi and Burlington developer Louis Pomeroy were the only F-35 proponents speak roughly ten dozen speakers. The Frank & Anne show didn't play well with the plan's detractors, who accuse the GBIC bias of distorting or ignoring data and working in a propagandist on the payroll of the 1 percent.

Cioffi admits that controversy makes him uncomfortable. He has an ongoing disposition that is better suited to silencing wary business leaders than reasoning with homeowners fearful of the F-35's impact on property values as left-wing campaigns against "UB terrorism."

But "this is what I have to do — scream-baby to stay up and support them," Cioffi says, referring to the hundreds of Vermonters who work for the Air Guard. If the F-35 ends up elsewhere, Cioffi warns, those people could find themselves unemployed. "Those are working-class people," he notes. "These jobs, full or part-time, mean everything to them and their families."

The push to station the plane in Vermont is "all about saving jobs," Cioffi argues. And protecting employment — or "playing defense," as he puts it — accounts for half of what Cioffi does at GBIC.

Helping to create jobs in Champlain County, or "playing offense," takes up the rest of his time.

How effective is Cioffi in these two roles?

In the 15 years he's been running GBIC, the Vermont native and UVM grad has built a reputation for seriousness and reliability. State Sen. Tim Ashe (D-F-Champlain), who sits on the Senate Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs Committee, says that when Cioffi comes to Montpelier to lobby for legislative action, lawmakers understand something major is at stake.

"Other economic-development guys tend to talk in theoreticals," Ashe observes. "Frank doesn't. He's very concrete, very much into the particulars of a project. I find that refreshing."

Cioffi worked for years, both inside and outside the administration of Gov. Howard Dean, to persuade

Hasky, a Canadian manufacturer of plastic moldings, to open a plant in Milton that would pay good wages to several hundred Vermonters. Hasky finally did build its factory, but job numbers there never spiked as high as boosters had predicted.

GBIC's most visible contribution to the Burlington-area economy takes the form of the seven industrial parks it has built since its launch in 1984. One of those manufacturer chateaus, in Burlington's South End, was the home of a start-up that GBIC "took a gamble on." Cioffi recalls helping to finance a facility for a snowboard maker paid off. Burton Snowboards grew to become one of Vermont's greatest economic-development success stories.

The heroic era of heavy industry ended along time ago, however — both in Vermont and nationally. Manufacturing accounted for about 20 percent of the



Although working in his name says "improved workforce training," that's also part of Cioffi's job in relation to both job retention and recruitment. He says that the number of jobs available in the state won't matter much if there aren't enough qualified Vermonters to fill them.

It's hard to say whether Cioffi performs well in regard to preserving jobs, according to Vermont auditor-elect Doug Koffler, another Democrat/Progressive. "I've never seen a meaningful indicator of that kind of effectiveness. How would one quantify success in preserving jobs from going west?" Koffler wonders.

Cioffi's cluttered but comfortable office is on the corner of Burlington's Main and South Champlain streets in the building that also houses the Lake

Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, with which GBIC shares two employees. With four additional full-time staffers, it has an annual budget of \$800,000. Nearly thousand of that comes from the state, which appropriates an identical amount to each of the 12 regional economic development agencies in Vermont. They're all nonprofit bodies, but they're all incorporated by acts of the Vermont legislature.

GBIC also gets a total of \$85,000 a year from the 19 towns in Champlain County. Burlington contributes the biggest share — about \$30,000 — while South Burlington pays less than half that. The contribution recently caught the attention of Suzanne Greco, chairwoman of the South Burlington City Council, which has voted 4-1 against helping the F-35 at ITV Greco says she appreciates the irony of her city's donation to an entity that she believes is fighting hard against its interests.

Three-quarters of CHIC's budget comes from rent that private companies pay as a pair of bad dogs in Colchester owned by the real-estate investment arm of the nonprofit corporation. Additionally, local employers voluntarily throw \$40,000 into CHIC's kitty, which is less than half of what they aimed up prior to the recession, Chaff notes.

Seated at a conference table, Chaff turned his autobiography during a recent 25-minute interview. The account needed an explanation of why he pronounced his name "choff."

Chaff's grandfather emigrated from Italy to St. Albans, where French speaks on bad trouble with the "cho-choff" pronunciation. The "choff" slang got passed down to Frank, but not to his brother, Robert, who has reverted to the authentic, soft C pronunciation of the family name.

Chaff's cousin, who is also named Robert, is the chair of the TVM board of trustees.

The Chaffs have deep roots in St. Albans, where Frank's father worked as a successful rubber and where Frank still lives. Although his family was relatively well off, Chaff never lost touch with the real city's working class. "Some of the workers who lost their jobs at Essex were my classmates" in high school, the economic development specialist says, referring to the 300 employees who were recently told they'd be laid off because the battery plant is pulling the plug.

After UVM, where he served as student government president, Chaff helped Franklin County's economic development agency for two years before going into the real estate business with his father. "We did really, really well," Chaff recounts, "but I was bored to hell."

He eventually became more economic development — commissioner under Dean, whom Chaff describes as a close friend. He also calls himself a Democrat, even though he sometimes supports Republicans running for the governor's office.

Some of the hippest entrepreneurs on Pine Street may view the company that GACC seeks to recruit and retain as kind of old-fashioned — corporate and conservative, contends Michael Meets, who headed Burlington Community

and Economic Development Office during much of Mayor Peter Clavelle's 14-year tenure. "But the truth is," Meets adds, "there's a ton of those types of jobs in Chittenden County."

Now chief financial and operating officer at the Champion Housing Trust, Meets envisions with Chaff's work — not only as a development advocate, but as a defender of *Art Good Jobs*. The former CEDO chief remembers the first long peace accords directed at the Burlington plant of General Dynamics. "From city hall, Meets had a different view: 'It's part of the military-industrial complex,' he notes, but then adds, "The way we saw it was that everybody working at General Dynamics was a Vermont."

The F-35 controversy is tender. "Who wants the F-35?" Meets asks. "Nobody wants the F-35" but a lot of Vermonters sure do want to retain the jobs the F-35 would create, he notes.

It's not that simple, Greco suggests. A retired Air Force colonel, the notes that the lifespan of the F-35 fighter has already been extended by 10 years and could well have another 10 tacked on, given the constant delays and cost overruns in developing the F-35.

"So at worst we're talking about maybe losing 400 full-time jobs for Vermonters in two decades," the South Burlington city council chief says. "Though that against the 6000 homes that will be in high noise zones if the F-35 does come here — and that's supposedly in seven years," Greco adds. "Why does the potential loss of job decisions from now take precedence over the damage to so many people's property and perhaps to their health?"

Chaff acknowledges that F-35 has made a powerful argument when they point to the 300 South Burlington homes targeted for demolition because they lie in an existing high-noise zone adjacent to thousands of the F-35 and commercial jets. "The airport could have done a lot better job of communicating with its neighbors," Chaff says. Airport officials "put the Vermont Air Guard in a really bad position" ☐

(Disclosure: Tim Ashe is the domestic partner of Seven Days publisher and coeditor Paula Bozby.)



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UVM Sets Kill Traps for Dam-Building Beavers in Centennial Woods

BY KATHRYN FLAGG

When a family of beavers took up residence in a retirement pond in Barre's Centennial Woods this past fall, field researcher Tracy O'Connor saw it as a learning opportunity. His students could watch the animals up close.

But the University of Vermont viewed their new tenants — and the dam they built — as a nuisance. Worried about flooding, the university this month set lethal traps to kill the large, semiaquatic rodents.

At least one of the four beavers — an adult male that O'Connor nicknamed Stefan — is already dead. Now O'Connor and others are calling for the university to halt the trapping until spring, when the beavers could be relocated.

O'Connor, a 28-year-old adjunct professor at UVM and the Community College of Vermont, lives a stone's throw from Centennial Woods, a natural area sandwiched between the main campus of UVM, which manages the area, and Interstate 89. The woods serve as O'Connor's outdoor laboratory for a class he teaches at UVM called "Natural History of Centennial Woods."

O'Connor estimates he and his students have spent hundreds of hours observing the beavers over the last four years, in the pond and elsewhere in Centennial Woods.

But apparently the animals went unnoticed by UVM staff — that is, until an engineer hired by the university noticed their handiwork in the pond on November 26. That's when Bill Nodds of the Colchester firm Forbo and Louwng noticed the beavers had plugged the pond's main outlet. One large snare, Nodds explained in an email, and the pond could spill over, flooding infrastructure downstream and causing damage to houses.

By the time Nodds noticed the beavers, it was too late in the season to move them to a new location. The snare had already strangled their cache of winter food and would likely starve if released. After consulting with the United States Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Service, UVM decided the best solution was lethal trapping. In early December, the



Tracy O'Connor

university hired a beaver trapper who set three conobar traps — large, steel devices used to catch fur-bearing animals — around the retention pond.

On December 3, O'Connor discovered the traps on a well-trafficked beaver path near the pond. He also found and removed the body of the first dead beaver, Stefan. He broke the news to his students and notified his neighbors on Forest Patch Farm about the potential danger the traps posed for family pets.

The next day, the traps were gone. UVM spokesman Enrique Caradon presses that "nobody stole them." O'Connor vows it wasn't him.

While their suspicious disappearance brought the remaining beavers a brief reprieve, Caradon says the university has made arrangements to have new traps placed "as soon as possible."

"There have been discussions with university faculty members regarding possible alternatives, and we are

open to exploring long-term solutions," Caradon wrote in an email. "Unfortunately the current situation requires a more immediate solution and we have not been able to identify a viable short-term alternative."

On a recent walk to the beaver pond with O'Connor, the water was mostly covered in a thin layer of ice, through which the beavers had broken a narrow channel between their lodge and the dammed pond drain. A fence topped with barbed wire

WILDLIFE

replaced the pond, and power lines cut over the water. O'Connor said two of the beavers first began constructing their lodge here in early June. They left for part of the summer but returned in the mid of September. A month later, the beavers "adopted" a second nesting pair.

"This isn't great habitat for beavers," said O'Connor, as he tramped through the woods bordering the pond.

All around O'Connor were obvious signs of beaver activity: toppled trees, gnawed stumps and a stockpile of food to last the winter partially submerged in the ice. Because of the dam, the pond was about five feet higher than it would be normally. Given such tell-tale signs, O'Connor said he couldn't understand how the beavers went unnoticed by university staff until this month.

UVM grounds officials declined to comment for the story, directing all questions to Caradon. Rick Paradis, who is in charge of Centennial Woods and UVM's eight other natural areas, noted the pond isn't within his jurisdiction. It's technically just outside of the designated Centennial Woods natural area. He said he got the area about the beavers when he was capped on an email from Nodds.

O'Connor has gone to great lengths to study and befriend the beavers. He set up a pump camera to catch the animals at night, guaranteeing they would thrash and cutting food down to the pond. He posted the footage to his blog, Wild Barre, but UVM grounds crew have since removed his camera, claiming it was an "unauthorized placement."

"He had authorized such a close

relationship with them that he could feed them by hand," remarks Alyse Dossel, another adjunct professor in UVM's environmental program. "It's a little bit like a Jane Goodall situation."

Beavers don't have many natural predators, says O'Connor, which means they're fairly easy to tame. O'Connor has visited the Continental beavers so often that he believes they recognize his voice. When encountering last summer on the Winooski River, O'Connor says, "Melvin popped up and looked into the eye — agitated. O'Connor interpreted to the beaver saying hello."

"When I take students out there, and they're seeing a beaver for the first time five feet away from them, their eyes just light up. They don't breathe for 30 seconds, because they're totally in awe of this wild creature that has tamed them," says O'Connor. "That for me is something that doesn't exist in books, and it doesn't exist in classrooms or lectures or PowerPoint. It can only exist by allowing yourself to be out in wilderness."

The decision to trap the beavers has dismayed some of O'Connor's students. Ryan Pizzitelli, a 22-year-old CIV student in O'Connor's "Natural History of Vermont" class, believes UVM could or should have known the beavers had moved into the pond sooner, before it was too late to relocate them. "I think what UVM is doing is kind of outrageous," he says.

What other options does the university have? Relocating the animals in the spring is one option but comes with its own potential problems. Beavers are creatures of habit, says O'Connor, and introducing them to a new habitat can cause stress and additional competition for resources. If left alone, O'Connor suspects the beavers would have found a new home next spring or summer, anyway, because "the habitat is too marginal."

Another option is installing "beaver baffles" or "beaver decision-

— made additions that either prevent beavers from building dams or direct water through the blockages. O'Connor worries that UVM's solution — traps set around the pond — could snare atrisk fox, raccoon and deer that pass through Continental Woods, not to mention dogs and cats. UVM has routinely left unlocked the gate on the fence around the pond, he says.

More broadly, O'Connor criticizes UVM for what he sees as a lack of transparency in making the decision to trap the beavers — apparently done without input from students, faculty and neighbors who use the natural area.

"I'd love to find a way of integrating community voice and student voice into management decisions," he says. "It's going to make it a lot slower, but it's going to make it a lot richer an experience... and it will make the decisions that we make more

social ecologically and economically."

Pizzitelli considers it might make sense to involve more people in decisions about Continental Woods. "We have to take a closer look at how effectively we're managing these natural areas and how we could do better," he says. It's not clear whether that would have helped the beavers, who jumped the Continental Woods boundary when they moved into the retention pond.

For her part, Dossel blames the situation on a lack of communication and a failure to fully explore alternatives. "It's not a 'bad guy, good guy story,'" she says.

"I'd like to think that there could be some middle ground," she says. With the beavers soon heading under the ice for winter, she estimates, the university has a chance to "take a deep breath" and look at the situation again in the spring.

But if the university keeps setting traps for them, the beavers might not have that long. ☺

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—Sharon Patrick

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POLITICS

Weinberger Wants Year-Round Waterfront Action, But Some Neighbors Are Wary

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger is asking the state for permission to stage concerts, festivals and other major events in Waterfront Park any night of the year until 11 p.m.

The proposal to amend the 16-year-old Act 250 permit governing use of the park — mandated by a September out-of-court settlement — signifies an effort on the part of the Weinberger administration to greatly expand economic opportunities on the Burlington waterfront. The mayor, who has a black granddaddy as a developer, wants to make the park a regular venue for urban-style entertainment.

In its written request for changes to the Act 250 permit, the city says it seeks to "stimulate more year-round activity on the waterfront." The filing describes Waterfront Park as "an active and vibrant public asset — but rarely during the warmer months. During the colder months, the waterfront becomes a backwater with little going on. And this reality makes it difficult for businesses that in particular depend on customer traffic, to survive," the Weinberger administration adds.

For the mayor himself, it's an unusual message that he has no plan to turn the park into a limited version of the

Flynn Center. "Any suggestion that any administration is seeking to have events at the Waterfront Park 365 days a year is flatly incorrect," he declares.

The issue is nonetheless sure to face strong opposition from waterfront residents as well as from other Burlingtonians who view the scenic lakefront park more as a natural preserve than a profit-generating resource. On the other hand, Weinberger's proposals will likely gain support from business interests and from city dwellers who agree that the waterfront is underutilized as a site for cultural happenings and large-scale celebrations.

"The waterfront is sacred ground in Burlington," says City Councilor Miss Tracy. "It's so important to so many people."

Tracy, a Progressive representing part of the Old North End, adds that he isn't fondly against more frequent commercial use of the park. "It's not black-and-white issue," he says. "I love live music." But Tracy also insists that the waterfront must not become "a pop-toy place."

Cyclists and walkers are already excluded from the park's paths whenever major events take place there, notes David Greenberg, an attorney who lives in one of the rowhouses along Lake Street, adjacent to the park. A board

member of the 200 Lake Street homeowners' association, Greenberg worries that the public will increasingly be barred from the park while nearby residents are bombarded with loud noise on many more nights.

Judy Greenstein, who lives in an apartment building opposite the Mirror Plant, is circulating a petition that calls on the Act 250 district commission to reject the proposal for more frequent lakefront live-music in the grounds that "the amount of traffic, noise and change to Waterfront Park produced by events held by or approved by the city of Burlington is already intolerable."

At present, commercial events are allowed to take place in Waterfront Park on no more than 27 dates between late May and mid-September. Amplified music can be played on only 22 of those nights, and it must be switched off by 9:45 p.m. on Sundays through Thursdays, and by 10:45 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Another restriction: Events may not occur on more than three consecutive weekends.

In its request to amend the Act 250 permit, the Weinberger administration frames these restrictions as an unacceptable impediment to "reinvigorating the use of Waterfront Park for the public and promoting and sustaining economic development in the city's important downtown

area." The city also says that its suggested changes will enable it to "take advantage of opportunities and uses for the park that were never imagined in 1994, as well as opportunities and uses in the future that cannot be predicted today."

The mayor himself is casting his proposal as a bid for "local control," pointing out that Waterfront Park is the only municipal park in Vermont overseen by state regulators. "The city has capacity to manage the park and should do so," the mayor said in a December 18 interview.

"That doesn't mean we won't have similar or even more robust regulations at the local level" than those now imposed by the state, Weinberger added. "We are aware of concerns about noise. We're willing to make capital improvements and other changes to mitigate noise."

The mayor emphasized that his proposed amendments do not call for an increase in permitted noise levels, as measured in readings taken at the periphery of the park. The standard would remain fixed at 45 decibels. But the city does seek a change in the rule so that noise shall be considered in violation only if it is sustained at more than 45 decibels for 60 consecutive seconds. Currently, it's a violation any time sound exceeds 45 decibels.

In its filing the city downplays noise

complaints made by neighbors like Greenwald, stating that "there have been minimal complaints from just a small number of people" during the 20 years in which concerts and festivals have taken place in the park. Regulations have been rigorously enforced, the city contends.

Greenberg, the homeowners' association member, says this simply isn't so. He contends that evening noise restrictions are routinely flouted and that nighttime events in the park are generally "unannounced and out of control." Greenberg says he sometimes flies his home because of incessant pounding of drums and the screeching of machinery used in setting up concerts.

But the Weinberger administration maintains it gives neighbors multiple avenues to address noise complaints to city hall. "The city has been highly responsive to these complaints," the city wrote in the Act 250 filing, "and is constantly modifying and updating its event planning and permitting processes to proactively address potential problems."

The mayor pointed out in last week's interview that the move by the city to amend the Act 250 permit issued in 1994 was mandated by the terms of a recent court settlement with Lake Street homeowner Allison Lockwood. She has battled the city on environmental and cultural uses of the waterfront in the past.

An agreement with Lockwood enabling the city to move ahead with infrastructure development in the area around the Morris Place came with a condition: It required the city to seek

THE AMOUNT OF TRAFFIC, NOISE AND DAMAGE TO WATERFRONT PARK PRODUCED BY EVENTS HELD BY OR APPROVED BY THE CITY OF BURLINGTON IS ALREADY INTOLERABLE.

JUDY GREENSMITH

an amended Act 250 permit by late November, Weinberger says.

The city's proposed changes, dated November 15, came to light last week in a post-Lockwood article in *Front Porch Forum*. Her online commentary does not attack the city's position, it simply acknowledges what the city is asking in the 48 page document submitted to state regulators.

Lockwood declined to be interviewed concerning her own opinions of the proposed changes but that didn't stop the mayor from suggesting in an email message following his December 25 phone interview that "Lockwood's position, apparently, is that she does not want more people using the park more than it is already used."

Weinberger countered that stance with his own view that "the people of Burlington should decide who uses the park and when and how they use it — not the Act 250 district commission appointed by the governor."

Appropriately of Weinberger's comments, Lockwood's only response was "The mayor can say whatever he wants, but he's putting words in my mouth I never said."

Another open question: What role will the public play in deciding which events take place in Waterfront Park? Under current regs, waterfront events are proposed and reviewed by a non-volunteer advisory committee composed of nearby residents, business representatives, event promoters and city officials. Weinberger proposes to keep the committee but doesn't delineate its membership in the Act 250 proposal. The mayor says, however, that Park Director Jesse Bridges "plans to use that committee even more than in the past."

City Councilor Vince Brennan (D-Ward 3), who represents renters and homeowners living close to Waterfront Park, suggests Weinberger should have solicited broad public comment prior to filing for the Act 250 changes. "The mayor has been talking about being inclusive, but I think this way of proceeding would shut down public input," Brennan says.

Weinberger rejects that criticism in a detailed email response. He says the Parks and Recreation Department's citizens advisory commission gave comments approved to the

city's plan for changes to park regs. Two of the three members of a council committee overseeing the parks and cultural events also signed off on the proposal. Weinberger says, adding that the third member, Brennan, did not respond to messages seeking his input.

Under state law, the three-member Act 250 district commission for Chittenden County will review Weinberger's proposed amendments as well as submissions from other officials and neighbors. But residents claiming to be affected by the contemplated changes must first persuade the commission that they are entitled to "party status." Whether ruling is made by the commission or — and may well be — appealed to the state's environmental court. ☐

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Bloggers Tout Books; Bookstores Branch Out

BY PAMELA POLSTON

There's no way you'd confuse 1990s urban frontiers *Lisa Lane* and Cuk Jan with 21st-century Vermonters *LISA CHARTERIS* and *LISA CADOW*. The two friends started out calling their E-mailed blog *booknbooks*, then changed it to the book Jan — for simplicity's sake, sometimes **PENNY MCCONELL**. The co-owner of **NORWICH BOOKSTORE**, McConnell calls the two *Lane* "her books" and the good reason *Cadow* used to work at the store: Christie still does. Both are involved with the **NORWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY**. Christie is the founder of Everybody Wants Vermont, an extraordinary reading program in public schools. And the women are indefatigable champions of books, in person and on their blog, making suggestions for a variety of potential readers — such as their current holiday gift guide on book Jan — and hosting book-club events. Their efforts benefit not only their town's independent bookstore and library but a community of readers.

Their community includes the "250 to 350" subscribers to the book Jan blog, Christie says. She adds that the site gets spread of 100 hits a day after new posts. Those numbers may not sound like much, but despite the email lists, she and Cadow are pleased that "people in town are talking about books, grateful for our suggestions and for supporting the Norwich bookstore," Christie says.

When new blog sites start out that way. At first, says McConnell, she and Cadow considered a book-club newsletter and podcast. But the pre-dawn decade surpassed their limited recording equipment. "Lisa Cadow has a book blog [Book on the Road]," McConnell says, "and so the idea eventually turned into a book blog."

The bookstore is not directly involved with the blog, but the two enterprises are clearly symbiotic. Working at the store introduces Christie to new books, and she and Cadow openly express their loyalty to reader bookshelves. The feeling is mutual. A current poster on the blog notes, "Thanks to heavy in-store bookshelves, book Jan made [New Hampshire Public Radio's] Annual Holiday Book Show."

The *Lane*s are generous with their own words, not simply listing books but providing mini reviews and, sometimes, personal commentary on why a book resonated. Christie and Cadow each have a "book-shelf" on the blog where they recommend dozens of releases in a variety of categories

— fiction, nonfiction, poetry and children's. They range from best sellers by the likes of *Dave Eggers* and *J.K. Rowling* to lesser-known releases by local authors, including detective novelist **AMANDA HAYES** and young-adult author **SARAH STEWART TAYLOR**. Not all the books are new. One of Christie's recommendations, for example, is mystery writer *Josephine Tey's* 1951 *The Daughter of Time*. "I found that book as research for a future book Jan post," Christie writes. "It held up."

Reusing the book Jan blog, she wants



THE LISAS ARE GENEROUS WITH THEIR OWN WORDS, NOT SIMPLY LISTING BOOKS BUT PROVIDING MINI REVIEWS AND, SOMETIMES, PERSONAL COMMENTARY ON WHY A BOOK RESONATED.

nothing more than to sit down and read for hours, days. Perhaps the *Lane*s — both working mothers — could tell us how they find the time?

McConnell is a multitasker, too — these days, all bookshelves do something besides sell books, and Norwich Bookstore is no exception. In addition to selling gift items, such as cards, wrapping paper and games, McConnell organizes a lot of events, both on- and off-site. She and Cadow are involved in a new and, so far, highly successful one called "Pages in the Pub." McConnell says, which has been held twice at the Norwich Inn. It's an evening in which people can enjoy wine and talk about books — with, of course, their local independent bookseller. Attendees are given a roster of books to be discussed and a checklist to note what they'd like to buy. Superstition: "We add a ridiculous number of books to less than an hour."



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with small publishers that don't pay for publicity tours — is a growing niche for indie bookstores. At **PHOENIX BOOKS** **MALDEN**, owners **MIKE DELBARTO** and **JENNE KEMER** have for us a way to offer these writers to share readings while covering their own costs. As part of a "local author program" they offer shelf space to Vermont writers and charge them \$150 per event. But that is "like a business stream and more a cooperative effort." Delbarto says noting the staff helps it take to prepare for and put on an event.

His adds that Phoenix would need to hold live or on readings a week to profit from the program. Still, an event that draws even a small audience is likely to result in sales that the store might not have had otherwise.

Delbarto says he's been in "serious negotiation" with authors of an electronic book machine that produces volumes on demand, which has been a hit with self-publishing authors. He expects to decide by February whether to purchase one. **NORTHSTAR BOOKSTORES** in Manchester Center and **BOOKS & CAFE** in **WINDHAM** in Johnsonbury have been supporting their bookshelves for several years with niche publishing via the Espresso Book Machine, made by On Demand Books. Crafts with the Espresso also have access to various digital libraries, enabling them to offer personally tailored titles.

Speaking of digital books, Phoenix has been selling the *Kindle*, an e-reader created by Amazon, a partnership with independent booksellers. Various models go for about \$99 to \$200, depending on size and options. "The first batch we ordered is coded for our store, so we get a little rebate on sales," Delbarto says. "It's not much, but it helps."

Why purchase an e-reader in a bookstore rather than online? For the store means people like to buy physical books. Delbarto says, "They want to hold it, touch it, see how it feels" — nice metaphor about the number of book sales noted by the e-reader industry but acknowledging the device is not going away.

At the Norwich Bookstore, McConnell says she's beginning to sell the *Kindle* as well, but her enthusiasm is muted. "I just don't know about that yet," she says.

Ultimately, bookshelves are great if they personify still like to read. But people may of as continue to believe, as book Jan's Christie puts it, "in the power of books to tell stories, and to create empathetic connections" ☺

Maybe moving was in the way to go? Another successful annual enterprise, McConnell notes, is the store's Book Angel program, in which people buy books to fulfill "wish lists" compiled by local nonprofit groups. She hangs a large wreath in the store in mid-November decorated with paper angels bearing individual requests: customers can purchase a specific title or simply donate money and let the store's staff choose. (This and similar charitable gift programs are popular at indie bookstores around the state.)

In addition, says McConnell, "We do as much as we possibly can to sell books outside the store — at the **CHERRY FOR CARBON STUDENT**, at house parties, at Dartmouth College." She adds that the store held an event for these self-published authors in the fall. "We'll do that again," the book-seller says.

Accommodating the burgeoning ranks of self-published authors — and authors

Norwich Author Pens a Novel, One Bite at a Time

BY KITE BARDASHIAN



Rebecca Hunsicker

Sensational fiction has venerable bloodlines, packed with the DNA of Dickens, Flaubert, Tolstoy and Marley. Generally, these writers published chapters of their novels in popular magazines that paid well and built the authors' audiences. Each appointment was rare for writers these days, but the pull of personal literature is still strong.

Norwich resident **REBECCA HUNSICKER** has put a modern spin on the serial format. Since March, she's been posting one page per day of her novel *The Streethouse Caper* on a custom website she calls Novel Nibble.

An *old-fashioned* columnist at Dartmouth College, Hunsicker got the idea when she heard a colleague complaining that her monthly soap opera had been canceled, depriving her of a daily escape from reality. Hunsicker, who has a master's degree in creative writing, was working on a short story at the time and realized she could provide that escape by developing her narrative and breaking it down into bite-size morsels. She wanted each page to make sense on its own and as part of the whole.

"I had to create almost my own literary genre," Hunsicker recalls. "There would be these stand-alone pages with a beginning and end, but at the same time it had to fit into the bigger picture."

After about three months of planning, Hunsicker paid for a web-design firm to build her a site that looks like a book page and allows readers to flip back and forth among pages she can load multiple pages onto the site, which is programmed to release a new one each day.

Without an editor, however, the process has been a little stressful. "I don't even look at it in the morning, because it's too nerve-rattling to see my errors,"

Hunsicker says she's keeping track of the mistakes but not fixing them on the website. "I feel like it would be kind of like, 'I'm a writer!'" she explains.

The confines of a single page have proved difficult for story-telling. For instance, it's hard to introduce new characters, write extended dialogue or include such descriptions of people and places, because Hunsicker has to save room for plot and a narrative arc. But she's passed a modest following and receives constant queries from other writers looking to self-publish.

From the start, Hunsicker planned to end the story after a year, short enough to fit her schedule, but admits it's been tough to keep up with the page-a-day madness. Also, "it's getting a little old," she acknowledges. "The story should have ended by now."

Hunsicker doesn't want to print the novel when it's finished, fearing that it wouldn't be good to read in a traditional way. Instead, she intends to write a few page-a-day short stories. "I love this little idea," she says. "I think part of it is just my personality. The ADD is me keeping it short."

The project definitely got Hunsicker noticed. Shortly after starting *The Streethouse Caper*, she is paid a contract to write a short holiday novel, *Mrs. Claus and the School of Christmas Spirit*, which came out last month. ☐

B Mrs. Claus and the School of Christmas Spirit by Rebecca Hunsicker is the first ever Mass Communication print-on-demand! 123 pages, \$2.95. www.nibble.com

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James Kochalka Publishes a New Compilation, and Ends the Daily Comic Strip "American Elf"

BY PAMELA POLSTON

For his fourth collection of *American Elf* comic strips, which covers 2005 through 2011, Burlington cartoonist JAMES KOCHALKA penned an introduction in nine panels. It reads: "The book reflects four years of the daily comic strip that I drew in my sketchbook. But it's more than just a comic strip. It's live. Random deeper. Presiding over The poetry of life. Yes. Yeah I guess it's just one life. Four years. Thanks for letting me share it with you. That's all."

Kochalka is a "local" guy, but he's got a worldwide fan base, both for his cartoon work and his quirky rock music to JAMES KOCHALKA SUPERHERO to his amusement last week that "American Elf" — think "Frosty Circus" for the sake of it — will come to an end on December 31 produced reactions around the globe.

"I've been getting a lot of e-mails from all over the world begging me not to stop," Kochalka says. "One fan wrote to say he sat down and read all 14 years' stuff, and

Kochalka adds, simply thanked him for what he had produced.

"Yes, 14 years' worth of daily cartoons — actually 15, including 2002. James came up the strip for a full year in its early days, since then, he thinks he has only shipped one day around the time he had died last September. Most of these strips are compiled in books, all are enclosed on Kochalka's website. Seven Days has been running one each week for nearly a decade.

Why quit now? "I feel like I created a great work of art, but I felt it maybe wasn't right to include my family without their consent," Kochalka says he has finally decided, referring to his wife, Amy and their two young sons. Indeed, the diary-style comic doesn't

shared life with his family friends and out, from mundane moments to empty reflection to lightbulb-glowing epiphanies. Another factor, Kochalka says, is that "Elf" has no commercial my mind for 14 years, I've hardly thought about anything else."



That's an exaggeration, of course, one that goes for time he has produced other great cartoons, work for rockabilism, musical recordings and an animation series titled *Amoeba's Place*, among other projects. He's also taught at the **UNION FOR CARTOON STUDIOS** in New York Junction and here since Vermont's first cartoon festival. He's even been a headliner and did, but still, drawing a strip every single day has required a special kind of discipline. Kochalka notes that, when his family goes camping in the mountains, "I'm drawing *Elf* in the woods!" Of "American Elf" he says, "These 14 years, it's been the great joy of my life, but

it's also been incredibly painful." As he's aged and experienced life's ups and downs — and absorbed many of them in black and white — it's sometimes been emotionally difficult, Kochalka says, that the cartoon could be part of the record — such as his recent selection as one of the best 20 web comics of 2012 by Paste magazine.

Kochalka says he's not about quitting, but none, "I felt like I had to make some decision, [Elf] wasn't meant to be a life sentence. I just wanted to learn something about what it meant to be a human being." And did he? "I've been so busy drawing it, I'm not sure," Kochalka admits with a laugh.

Elf'll get a chance to answer, perhaps, as the New Year. Kochalka says he wants to continue contributing a weekly strip to *Seven Days*, and he expects he'll "experiment with a couple different things before settling down." He continues he may eventually decide to return to "American Elf" — "It's what I want," they would say.

American Elf: The Collected Works of James Kochalka
Drawn at James Kochalka, January 1
2004 to December 31, 2011 Top Shelf
Productions. 384 pages \$34.95

A Vermonter's Boxing Book Details the Language of the Ring

BY DAN BOLLES

The language of sports has a long tradition of influencing the popular lexicon. From baseball we appropriate terms such as "strike out" and "hit a home run" to describe, respectively, failure and success. Racing, in its various forms, gives us the notion of "winning the finish line" to describe reaching a goal.

But that data goes especially well. Cautious as "winning" did, the perhaps you overdid it with the cologne and went home slow. Why to "drop the ball" — in his new book *The Boxing Dictionary* first-time Vermont author DAN BOLLES outlines in painstaking detail the colorful

"language of the ring." Written under the pen name John R. Jackson, Kalk's heavyweight name — it's essentially a nearly 400-page glossary — offers a blow-by-blow account of covert actions along and pugilistic parlance that could be a handy reference for serious boxing fans. It could also be a guide for neophytes to the sport. Like, for instance, Kalk's wife.

Kalk, 63, began compiling what would become the book's first entries at age 18, newly married at the time, he was attempting to introduce his Newburg bride to boxing, for which he had developed a passion as a kid growing up in Westchester

ago. Newly married at the time, he was attempting to introduce his Newburg bride to boxing, for which he had developed a passion as a kid growing up in Westchester



County, N.Y. That was thanks to his dad, who was a boxer in the Navy.

"We agreed to watch some fights with me and was so underwhelmed what was happening," says Kalk, who works as a software-store consultant, in a recent interview at his Jericho home. "That she had a hard time understanding what the hell the announcers were talking about."

So Kalk wrote down a few key terms and their definitions. As the couple watched more fights over the years,

that list grew and grew, from 40 to 400 to the more than 4000 entries his book comprises.

Kalk's labor of love was indeed laborious, that the result is a one-of-a-kind book at a sports reference that has influenced the common tongue with terms such as "knockout" and "on the ropes" — and, of course, encompasses hundreds of other pieces of pugilistic lingo to be pertinent to the uninitiated.

"The language of boxing is fascinating," Kalk says. "I hope this book helps more people appreciate our rich culture." ☐

The Boxing Dictionary by John R. Jackson
Lulu Press, 2012. 392 pages
\$24.95. Available at local sporting goods and pharmacy booksellers.

OVER-THE-COUNTER CANNABIS

[Re-"Could Potentially Blunder Road Out Vermont's Medical Marijuana Dispensaries Before They Light Up?" November 30]: This law has so many issues. A fleet of 1000 patrol cars where does the government control how sick people can become? This medicine needs to be over the counter, plain and simple. We don't need the Department of Public Safety dictating how sick people should meet their medical needs, we need doctors being able to have honest conversations with their patients about how cannabis can reduce their dependence on other medicines with fewer side effects. When there are fewer "pharmaceuticals" in the public's medicine cabinet, there will be fewer bodies in the morgue. Cannabis never killed anyone. It's safer than alcohol and tobacco, both of which are taxed and regulated.

Mark Linkhears
BANDP087

PANAMA RED TAPE

Thank you for clearing up the state's medical marijuana situation ("Could medical cannabis blunder road out Vermont's Medical Marijuana Dispensaries before they light up?" November 30). I admire the integral skills writing to climb that mountain of red tape in pursuit of their dream. The amount of cash the state is asking for a "license" is almost as ridiculous as the stigma that still surrounds its dense smokers, recommending high-wattage equipment and infrastructure to simulate the natural environment the plants need to grow.

Even Miller 2011 study, *Energy Up in Smoke: The Carbon Footprint of Indoor Cannabis Production*, was endorsed upon in the New York Times last year, but his message bears repeating. He estimates that indoor marijuana cultivation in this country already uses enough electricity to power two million average U.S. homes — 2 percent of total household electricity consumption. The resulting 17 million metric tons of CO₂ produced is comparable to the emissions of three million American cars. The energy required to



Outdoor one joint of this type of

indoor weed is equivalent to driving a small car for 20 miles.

It's disappointing that there are so many well-meaning folks pushing for legislation when success would translate into colossal increases in greenhouse-gas emissions and other pollutants. Outdoor cultivation isn't even on the table. This, ostensibly, is because it would be too difficult to keep the teenagers away, but I suspect the real reason is money. Outdoor growing only yields one crop per season — indoors, upwards of five or six.

It's not legalized if you still can't grow a plant outside. As long as the state tries to make money by passing laws, will we ever be free?

Mark Beneducette
READING

HOMES, NOT HOTELS

[Re-"With Shelters Full, a Second Number of Vermont's Homeless Are Living in Motel." December 3]: In response to your article on homelessness in Vermont, and the amount of money spent putting people up in hotels, it really does not take

a genius to figure out that the money could be so much better spent on building affordable housing for the people that are currently in homeless situations. Just take a look around your town and neighborhood at the number of vacant buildings, homes for sale that just sit there and spaces that used to be in business that sit empty.

These spaces could be purchased and redone to give low-income and at-risk families permanent places to live and raise their children. There are showers, and yet nobody with any power to make sensible solutions seems to care enough to make permanent housing a reality for our neighbors. Living in a motel for any length of time is not a solution; it is a band-aid that will not give anyone the safety and stability they need. Wake up! We need more affordable housing in Vermont so that families don't have to ever become homeless in the first place. Places like COTS are not in every town in Vermont, and COTS cannot help all the people. Nobody deserves to be without a safe, warm, comfortable place to live. Nobody. It is a shameful thing when families in our own towns have to be without a place to call their own.

Annette Harris
ADDISBURY

STOP PROTECTING SEX OFFENDERS

Seven Days recently reported that the *Times Argus* had a convicted sex offender in cover a court case and high school sports [see *Chase, "Offender Released,"* November 30]. Inconceivable that neither would check criminal records of those selected to cover these particular cases, since a press pass gives almost unlimited access. Was the convicted sex offender allowed access to school locker rooms?

According to the story, Kase Blaisdell didn't request permission from his probation officer for contact with minors.

The Times Argus

subsequently ran an article defending its hiring of Blaisdell, stating, "This is an incredibly well-supervised and restricted situation by the judge, the probation officer and a therapist. I am not going to second-guess that process, an unwilling to participate in it and give it a chance." Really? Allowing a convicted sex offender to appear on sex crimes is outrageous on the part of the judge, probation officer and therapist.

A few years ago, a Vermont girl was raped and murdered by an accused person the government considered to be a rehabilitated sex offender. It is inconceivable, irresponsible and outrageous to send a convicted sex offender where victims must appear to get their justice. No wonder Vermont is becoming a sex-offender haven. Sen. Dick Sears and his Senate Judiciary Committee protect the judges that let victims' Vermont judges are not answerable to those that pay them, they are answerable to a government that cares more about sex offenders than victims.

Seven Days is becoming the newspaper to read. We should thank it with our support.

Laure Breckner
WATERBURY CENTER

BIG MISTAKE

Rep. Gary Rowles is right in pointing to factory meat farms as a major source of greenhouse-gas emissions [see *Headline, "Diet from Big Meat,"* December 15]. However, to leap from there to stating that 250.org is "morally and ecologically senseless" is simply misguided. The two targets of activism — big oil and big meat — are in no way mutually exclusive. If we are to turn around the behemoth of the corporate world in its rush to destroy life on Earth, we need to work together.

Yes, speak out and encourage others to speak out. Change your life and encourage others to do the same. However, let's recognize that we are in the same struggle. Big oil's business plan involves extracting and burning enough fossil fuel to essentially destroy most life on the planet. Isn't that reason enough to organize and mobilize against them?

Rowles should also consider oil's impact and poison at the meat industry, not to Bill McKibben or the movement for fossil-fuel divestment.

Andrew Saven
SURLINGTON



Kase Blaisdell and her daughter (above)

Dear Jack,

People who take antidepressants often say they feel better, but some researchers claim that's due to the placebo effect. If it is, aren't drug companies using depressed people by getting them to buy pricey, useless drugs? On the other hand, if antidepressants genuinely make you feel better, does the feeling last, and are they addictive?

Antidepressants

So your question is: Are antidepressants bad because they don't work, or bad because they do? We can eliminate a few possibilities right off the bat. For starters, if I'm in the antidepressant business, I'm not about to sell a product that permanently cheers people up. What I want is something they need on a regular basis, like a nice glass of wine — an antidepressant that works on a lot of levels, including financially for the physician and therapeutically for everybody else. But I take it you're more interested in pills.

First, some statistics, the significance of which will become clear by and by:

- One in nine Americans over age 12 takes antidepressants, including one in four women between 40 and 59 (after the early 1990s antidepressant use has increased 400 percent across all age groups; here, there have been some bumps in the road over the past 20 years, but nobody's going to tell one life has become 900 percent more depressing).



- One American in 12 takes antidepressants despite having no depressive symptoms whatsoever.
- Less than a third of those taking antidepressants have had a checkup with a mental health professional in the last year, and one in seven has been on antidepressants for more than a decade.
- Nearly three quarters of all antidepressant prescriptions are written without any diagnosis of a psychiatric problem. Primary-care physicians are much more likely to prescribe these drugs than psychiatrists — one in 10 visits to a primary-care physician results in a new prescription or refill, but nearly 90 percent of those office visits where there's no

psychiatric diagnosis, there's also no specific psychiatric complaint from the patient (assuming, up to this point, that a common attack in the medical community is basically take your Prozac and don't come back. People are sure to be happy about this. Nearly a quarter of respondents to a 2008 globe survey cited the chance they'd get put on unwanted meds as a reason they felt depressed).

With that in mind, we're now prepared to grapple with the possibility raised in your letter, namely that all those mother's little helpers, to cite the old idiom, don't actually help. Here's what we find:

- A review of 127 studies involving more than 24,000 depressed patients

found placebo alleviated symptoms in 35 percent, while antidepressants reduced them to 46 percent (psychiatrists alone reduced symptoms in 47 percent, about the same as antidepressants but usually at higher cost). Best of all was combining antidepressants and psychotherapy, with a 52-percent success rate.

- A review of 98 studies published from 1980 to 2006 concluded the placebo effect was likely responsible for at least 50 percent of the improvement seen in patients taking antidepressants. Another review pegged it at 84 percent. Whichever ones, the placebo effect appears to be growing over time.

- Recent research says there's no medicinal benefit. A European study of "active placebo" (where the placebo mimicked the drug's side effects) found no significant difference between placebo and antidepressants. The latter were just particularly persuasive liars.

So why are antidepressants prescribed so often? We find a clue in a review of 58 antidepressant clinical trials submitted to the FDA. Good bear in mind, the FDA sets a low bar — it requires that clinical trials show a significant difference between a drug and a placebo, but doesn't limit the number of trials, enabling drug manufacturers to keep

rolling the dice and wait they get the desired result. The review found that, on average, antidepressants didn't meet the criteria for "clinical significance" — in other words, technically they didn't do anything, except for one group: patients rated as extremely depressed.

We further note that: (1) The U.S. population is aging, and elderly patients require more medical attention, among other things for depression, and (2) the percentage of primary-care physicians has dropped significantly. In 1980, about half of doctors were in primary care, now it's barely one 30 percent.

The upshot is that primary-care doctors have higher patient loads and less time to spend per patient. Since everyone nowadays expects the doctor to do everything, and since antidepressants evidently work for the extremely depressed and make many others feel better if only through the power of suggestion, the default response is to prescribe drugs for anyone with a mood blue — next patient, please.

The situation is likely to get worse. The number of primary-care physicians entering the field between now and 2020 isn't expected to keep up with demand. How all this will play out in the face of rising health care costs and the Affordable Care Act remains to be seen, but let's bet a lot of people, pills might be all they ever get.

If there's something you need to get straight, you can ask me about it. It's right in my back, where God allows at the Chicago Board of Education. Call 312.462.5400, or write to Cecil Adams.



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WHISKEY TANGO FOXTROT

We just had to ask...

**Commuters ask:
What's up with
Richmond's
sheet-
enshrouded
bridge and the
Beltline's white
foam blocks?**

BY KEN PICARD

High-speed travel around Vermont generates more WTF questions than all other activities combined. That's not surprising, given that mauling highway infrastructure projects at 60 miles per hour affords drivers little opportunity for close inspection and plenty of time for speculation later on.

Such is the case with the Checkered House Bridge on Route 2 in Richmond. For months, the 380-foot metal truss bridge, the longest span of its kind in

Vermont, has been partially draped in billows, punctuated like mistral. Whatever is happening beneath the bridge and where visitors is concealed from travelers who cross the bridge, as well as those who drive just on nearby Interstate 91.

Are the drapes a new window treatment for downtown Richmond? Vermont's answer to *Jeopardy!* puffy shirt? Or a covered-bridge antithesis by Christo, the avant-garde artist famous for wrapping Berlin's Reichstag among other structures in fabric?

The answer is nothing recently that way, though it does involve painting. Three coats, to be exact, according to Carolyn Carlson, a structures design project manager with the Vermont Agency of Transportation. Over a two-day period in mid-June, the Checkered House Bridge — so named for the distinctive checkered brick pattern on the nearby farmhouse that's now the Kitchen Table Bistro — was cut in half and washed by 12.5 foot so larger vehicles could traverse it. The \$159 million project, more than 20 years in the making, is believed to be the first one to widen a truss bridge in this way. Carlson says. Now that the trusses have been welded back together and a new bridge deck installed, the entire structure needs repainting.

The catch: But why does the historic bridge, which was built in 1929 to replace an earlier one damaged in the great flood of 1927, need to be enveloped in sheets? As Carlson explains, workers must first remove several coats of decades-old lead paint that will cover the steel beams. Lead paint, which is especially hazardous to small children, was outlawed in 1970. Under a Vermont law adopted in 1996 and revised in 2006, workers must

protect the public and the environment from exposure to lead dust.

Beyond the billowy curtains, massive hoists keep the tarp a billowy 60 degrees. Carlson explains, allowing painters to continue working in the winter. She notes, however, that once the first half of the bridge is completed, the second half will be wrapped in considerably smaller increments, owing to concerns about filling snow-caving in the drops.

The finished half of the bridge, which has just been painted green, is due to be unwrapped in the next week or two — just in time for the holidays.

A smaller but equally puzzling project has been in the works along Route 137 in Burlington, just north of the Ethan Allen Boulevard. For the past few weeks, the east side of the Beltline has been lined with hundreds of large, white foam blocks, each the size of a suitcase. Recently excavators and road crews have

wiring the hole path from permanently sliding into the river.

On a recent weekday morning, site engineer Willard Curran, of the firm Engineering Ventures, explains how the underground stabilization system works. Cheaper and more lightweight than sand, gravel and other fill materials, the poly-isobutylene foam blocks, each of which weighs just 100 pounds, provide a solid structure on which the hole path will rest. Once they're assembled in place like bricks, the entire structure will be covered in plastic, buried in dirt, and then repaired come spring.

The blocks, which have been used for bridge abutments, road beds, embankments and retaining walls, were only recently discovered by northern road crews, Curran says. This isn't the first time they've been used in Vermont. Curran says a few blocks aided in post-fire reconstruction projects.



been moving the blocks onto the newly bike path, which is below road level. What gives?

Steve Goodkind, Burlington's public works director, refers to the objects by a highly technical-sounding name: "big foam blocks." Made from a type of polystyrene, the blocks are being used to shore up 300 linear feet of eroded bike path and embankment during the Wisconsin tower, which, according to Goodkind, has collapsed and been repaired numerous times since the Beltline was first constructed in the early 1980s.

"It's been fading from the go, go," he says. "That was our last, best hope" of

the very property that makes environmentalists revile *Styrofoam* chemicals is what renders these foam blocks ideal for reconstruction work. They don't biodegrade in the elements.

Should Vermonters expect to see more of the big white domes cluttering the roadways? Maybe, maybe not. The *Star Enterprise* of Cobleskill, N.Y., manufactured the blocks. According to the Albany Times Union, the Cobleskill plant was destroyed in a fire in September, leaving 40 employees out of work. ☐

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Turning Pages

BY KEENAN WALSH



Doug Downs is a man of hobbies: He plays pool, he has driven across the country visiting small towns in small towns, he works on his old farmhouse in France, and, finally, he has been spending much of his time buying large boxes of books at auctions and sorting through them, looking for old volumes on Vermont history.

At first Book, it's confounding that a Philadelphia native would have such an interest in the history of this state. Downs, now 61, came to attend graduate school at the University of Vermont in 1970 and "had every intention of leaving, but never did," he says. What happened? Well, he fell in love.

He had fallen for the physical beauty of Vermont several years earlier, while working at a boys camp in Salisbury, but it was in graduate school that, Downs says, he grew to love the people of the state, too. "It's the independence streak in Vermonters," he explains. "The fact that

they'll think for themselves. And their closeness to the land."

When he graduated, Downs and his wife moved to France. He spent 22 years working for the Department of Education, rising through the ranks to become director of the Safe and Healthy Schools program.

Downs is now retired, but he's nothing if not busy. In addition to playing pool with the state championship team, he cruises on the state, sits in an auction, and buys large cases of books—generally for \$2 to \$5 a box. Book dealers across Vermont market them online and split the profits with him.

Downs Daps snags up with Downs—who might be the most independent of Vermont's independent booksellers—at a city near Vintage Inspired Lifestyle Market in Burlington, where he has been selling some of his vast collection.

SEVEN DAYS: Where did you love of books come from?

DOUG DOWNS: You know, my own family genealogy has been written, and I have a relative who collected books back in the 1800s (he got him 60,000 volumes to a library in Massachusetts. So it's in my blood

SD: And this particular interest in Vermont history—how did that start?

DD: I've always enjoyed it. I'm a lifetime member of the Vermont Historical Society that it really started nine years ago. I was at an auction of some older people's farmhouse contents, and in the house—their grandchildren had divorced and left all their belongings there. I bought the entire contents of the house and ended up with several boxes of books. I was talking with someone who said, "You know, if you take them to a used-book dealer they'll give you money for them!" So that was really the beginning of this book adventure.

SD: What's the most valuable thing you've ever found?

DD: Well, something just happened recently that's never happened to me before. People often ask me, "Have you ever found anything in the books?" And I never have until just this past month. I found money! I got a book, and I was going through it to price it, and there was a card there. I opened the card, and there was a \$50 bill. It was odd, though—it was a sympathy card.

The most valuable book that I've found is—well, I thought about foreign language

books at an auction in Burlington. The auctioneer found 1 or 2 better books, and I said, "Oh, I'll have them for \$20." A few days later, I drove through Watino, Vermont. There's a small bookstore there called Belongings Books (6 Galley), and I know the owner. I took the box to him and said, "I don't know if you're interested in these, they're foreign language." And he said, "Sure I'll take a look." He found eight books in German in Nietzsche and offered me \$50 for them. So I said, "Wow, maybe I better go look these up." I went back, pulled one book out of the box—it was a 19th-century leather-bound book, in French, by an author named Marcel—and it turned out it was worth \$1000. Just the one book! And I had paid \$2 for the whole box.

SD: Have you ever come across a book you couldn't part with?

DD: That's happened twice. I've found books that were the first I ever read, you know, as a kid. One was a thing called Dog Stories. I got the book in a box, and I recognized it immediately. And another one was—well, remember when you used to order books from Scholastic when you were in school? This one was called Shelton Cove. So you know, you have that experience where you recognize it immediately, and it takes you right back to when you were 6 or 9 years old. So I still have those.

SD: How do you think the used-book market has changed over the years?

DD: One of the bookstores I know doesn't have a storefront anymore—it's strictly online now. It's had economic times, being able to sell a book online has really made a difference. It's really made it possible to keep doing it.

So far as in Kindle and Nook and e-books—I think some people just like to have the book in their hands. In some ways, you could say the actual book might become more valuable because there'll be less and less of them. I mean, the whole thing is hobbies as "slow science" is 30°. And there's not going to be a lot of books around anymore. So the ones that are around, if you can keep them in good shape, I think they're actually going to be more valuable. ☺

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Fiction: *Hidden View*

BY BRETT ANN STANCIO



WINTER READING ISSUE

In the new spring green one year, my life cleft in two. The break happened as simply as walking across a brook, wandering through the woods within pines of crillians, spring beacons, a woodland carpet of moss blues. When I tried to return, the brook had swollen into a raging river, thaw-fled, and I would drown if I tried to cross. The roar of the river pounded my ears. On the other side, outside that forest I had wandered into, my parents, in their busy big house I had lived in the care of my 10 years, cried on with their lives. I stood in my mud boots in this unfamiliar force, scared with the sweet and almost milk odor of emerging life, newly green with

the first season of spring. Winter was not far behind and would not be far along, either I wore only a light blouse to shield me from the weather, and I was alone.

I didn't cry, didn't howl, didn't gnash my teeth in despair. I was as young then, so quite young I was easily distracted by the thrifty song of a hermit thrush, robins chirping in their nest, the delicate lace pattern of acorn-weathered leaves. Youth, naturally, passes.

My parents had found that as, if they ever realized their own youth. When I was old enough to walk to elementary school, my life took on a different pattern. I was no longer a child, concerned merely with meals and what clothes I

needed to wear, with the play I created with my dolls. I now left the house on my own, as my parents did each day, going out to meet the world and then returning. The world out there was filled with meals and colors that never entered our domain of off-white walls, low-wasp carpet.

My parents were quiet people, reserved and withdrawn. My mother handwired and ironed and wore the same faded A-line skirts, year after year; cotton/polyester blend in summer, cardigans to winter, packed her and my father's and my hair and chose sandwiches for lunch, and then walked the three blocks to elementarylike Water & Light, where she ate an actuary in the truck office. My father

Meet the Authors

Six local writers you may not have read yet — but should

BY MARGOT HARRISON, MEGAN JAMES AND PAMELA POLSTON

Winter
Reading
ISSUE!



Q uick, name a Vermont author. We're guessing you said "Chris Holmquist." Or "Les Irving." Or "Howard Frank Sackler." Maybe you thought of mystery master Author Mayor, Renaissance man Jay McInerney, poet David Daboll or environmental guru Bill McKibben. Or Megan Stephens Teggsen, a Randolph resident whose short-story collection has drawn some nationwide (Drives Days pulled her last March). Finally, if you're among the hundreds, perhaps now thousands, of Vermonters who have self-published, you may have said, "Me. And when's my write-up?"



Dayna Lorentz, South Burlington, 35

Dayna Lorentz's first young-adult novel, *No Safety in Numbers*, has an irresistible premise. On a busy Saturday, a biographer begins reliving a deadly virus through the air ducts of a shopping mall. When authorities quarantine the complex, teens find themselves trapped inside.

No Safety looks off a trilogy, which means Lorentz's transformation of Anthony Mallone Ford's

of the Plan is just getting started. This was the first time she's turned disaster into a thrilling narrative for young readers. She started her publication career with Days of the Drowned City, a trilogy about the centuries left behind in Hurricane Katrina.

Lorentz was an attorney in New York and worked as a law clerk in Children's Superior Court when she first came to Vermont, but since 2009 she's been "a pet owner and writer," she says. (One of the lead dogs in her books is closely based on her own.) As a writer for kids and teens, she notes, she visits schools and stays in touch with her readers; her output, a reading of *No Safety* at the Shelburne Flying Pig Festival was subdued. "Being a writer is more than just me alone with my books," Lorentz

says. "It encompasses all those aspects of reaching out to your reader-ship. There have been a lot of ups."

SEVEN DAYS: Why did you write this book?

DAYNA LORENTZ I was in a mall near where my husband and I were living at the time in New York, and we went to see a movie late at night. We were coming down the escalator, and they'd shut off the lights on the lower levels of the mall. There were people on these dark floors, just reporting in the darkness, basically. It felt awful. I went home, opened a file on my computer and started making frantic notes on this idea.

SD: What's next for you?

DL The sequel, *No Easy Way Out*, comes out in July 2013. It was a bear to write, and it's very mature.

SD: Why do you write YA?

DL I went to an MFA program [at Bennington College] and studied adult literary fiction. Then I discovered, as my own YA writing it was not what quite anyone "writing" was supposed to be. YA was open to things like science in poems, novels with drawings or sketches. I thought there's a bunch of publishing where they're really interested in new, crazy stuff. It's just an exciting place in publishing.

But not all of Vermont's noteworthy writers have high-level profiles. In this annual Winter Reading Issue, we decided to profile six with recent publications where you may not know specifically as "Vermont writers," or know at all. They're following the same in very different — and in working — directions.

And, yes, we realize there are many more. Watch for our reviews in the paper all year, including in our State of the Arts series.

L.E. Smith, Brookfield, 62

In 1972, Burlington's Cardinal of the Immaculate Conception burned to the ground. Since then, L.E. Smith describes in his new novel from local independent publisher Poésie Press, *Traverso's Inferno*, "The real worst incidents, molten, timbers consumed in turbulence as windows shattered in the drift, a kaleidoscope of colored glass filled the air."

Vand prisms like that anchors this novel inspired by the real series of suspicious fires in the Queen City. Smith's protagonist, Traverso Jones, already has "a redemptive journey" on the heels when he becomes one to Burlington. Reminded by a formerly Catholic mother, Traverso experiences epiphany scenes at which he sees his dead father, a spiritual ancestor. In war he's destined to be "Traverso Jones, church-burner!" Or to discover the real perpetrator of the crimes?

Like his novel, Smith's stories on the collection *Vermont Coast Extra* are witty, often brilliantly verbose. He didn't get his way with words in his MFA program.

"Was a good high school student" by his own admission, Smith devoured the books of literary James and Anthony Burgess as a teen. His adult training for writing encompassed a wide variety of jobs, including delivering mail in rural Vermont. "You



have to try different lives and experience different things to discover what a multi-plex world we live in," Smith says.

SEVEN DAYS: Why did you write this book?

L.E. SMITH I lived in Burlington in the '70s. I wanted to say there's a lot of love in it, but there's a lot of pain in it all the stuff you write. I was writing a romance [Barbara] but at night, I hang out at Neeter's and meet all these crazy characters. This was the original Neeter's, before it got spiffed up. It was not a fancy town hall then. It was a wild place. Punk music was starting to kick these second-wave punks out of these churches, and they never really found out who did it.

SD: Is writing your full-time job?

L.E. I'm a retired English teacher. I figured enough is enough, I just want to write. Now I make out at Vermont Technical College with the TRIO program in the afternoon and write on the evenings.

SD: What's next for you?

L.E. I have a novel coming in the spring [also from Poésie] about the murder of John Lennon in New York City. I was working as a security guard at the Metropolitan Museum when Lennon was shot.



Castle Freeman Jr., Newfane, 68

Until he moved with his wife to Newfane in 1972, Castle Freeman worried that he hadn't lived enough to be a writer. "But something clicked when he got to Vermont, and he hasn't stopped writing since."

"I can take you to the spot, on a dirt road in a neighboring town, where I was walking a couple of days after we arrived in the state when, unexpectedly, my life and lack of interesting content or useful experience ceased to be an obstacle to writing," writes Freeman in an author bio.

He was born in Texas, grew up on Chicago's South Side and went to college in New York City, but in his novels, stories, essays and commentary—which have appeared on Vermont Public Radio and in Vermont *Life* and many other publications—Freeman evokes such a keen sense of rural Vermont, pond-sweat like a native.

His latest book, *Inland Mountains*, is a collection of 12 short stories—all previously published, some written as early as 20 years ago—about life in a fictional rural



Vermont community. Freeman has long wanted to compile these stories in a book, but he couldn't find a publisher until he connected with the Concord Free Press, which publishes two books (and e-books) for sale. When readers request a free book, they pledge to make

a donation to a charity or other cause. "Just for my little book, we've had over 200 separate contributions for trees [recovery] and other causes," Freeman says.

SEVEN DAYS: How does it feel to give away your writing for free?

CASTLE FREEMAN JR.: It feels good to me, because I'm getting readers, which I was not getting at it was for this book. I'm getting reviews and attention, so in that way it's been great for me.

SD: Where's your day job?

CF: At this point my day job is freelance writing. I haven't always made a living that

way. I worked as a proofreader, a copy editor, as a regular old editor for book publishers, for anyone who would pay really.

SD: What inspired you to write these stories?

CF: I think that the setting is paramount to me and always has been. This kind of is what got me started. I've been interested in creating interesting and authentic settings for these stories. You do that not only by simple description but by the people you use to populate your stories. Everything works together to get the spirit of the place.

There's one character, Homer Hatch, who's in all the stories. I just kind of liked him. I didn't want to part from him completely at the end of the [first] story, so I went back and wrote some more.

SD: What are you working on next?

CF: *Black Road Mountains*. I've written a new novel. It's very different, kind of a romance-sensory-type thing.



PH J

Jon Clinch, Ludlow, 58

When Jon Clinch decided to self-publish his new book, the news made it to the Style Blog of the *Washington Post*. The paper had honored Clinch's two previous novels—*Pen and Kings of the Earth*, both published by Random House—on its list-of-the-year lists. "His

writer Ben Clatch said, 'world's well-recognized literary novelist turns his back on the industry'."

"Big publishing has really become a blockbuster industry," Clinch tells *Seven Days*, focused on finding the next *Fifty Shades of Grey*. "Publishers have given up utterly on the adult writer." Though *O*, the *Oprah Magazine*, put *Kings of the Earth* on its summer reading list, the book came out too late to cash in on that recommendation. "No one was talking about it anymore, and it was dead," Clinch says. "So you're lucky, you get a month's worth of support [from a publisher]."

Many writers shy away from selling their own work, but not Clinch, who spent 30 pages in advertising last December, he experimented with self-publishing by putting out a speculative novel, *What Came After*, under

the pen name Lisa Winstone, it has a few Amazon Kindle bestseller lists.

Clinch's new novel, *The Thief of Auschwitz*, which he'll publish on January 13, returns to a historical-fiction. It's an accessible, emotionally compelling tale that's likely to appeal to Holocaust fans.

The surname is Lisa Winstone, an identity removed from whose family was sent to Auschwitz when he was 16. The story of how his parents kept him alive there is a testament to the powers of both love and art.

When it comes to publishing, Clinch was humble as the literary equivalent of a Vermont macrobiotic, he says. He designed his own text and cover and "did everything except actually bring the publisher, because that would just be sad."

SEVEN DAYS: Why did you write this book?

JON CLINCH: For a long time I've been reading the first-person accounts of *Auschwitz*, like *Night* by Elie Wiesel. I came from a Methodist background, and my



wife is Jewish, Wendy Klach, his wife, remembers seeing tattoos on the wrists of some of her grandmother's friends. I wanted to understand that and deal with it. The more I read, the harder it seemed to look at, because the horror is just so great, and the tales are just so confusing. You ultimately begin to think, *Maybe there's no way for me to get my mind around it. So I began to think, Maybe if I use the tools of fiction, I can find a way to write a book that will keep people's attention on it and make them want to keep looking.*

SD: Is writing your full-time job?

JC: Yes, it is. It's a tough way to make a living, like any other kind of art.

SD: What's next for you?

JC: I'm really busy with that right now, but I have other projects in the pipeline, including one based loosely on the story of my grandfather, who was a bad apple. It's called *The Infinite Torment of Love*. That's a book with that title, it's actually pretty funny.

PH H



Gary Kowalski, Burlington, 58

Gary Kowalski, farmer-poet for some 20 years at the First Unitarian Universalist Society in Burlington, wrote seven books — “depending on how you count” he qualifies — before his latest, *Blessings of the Animals Celebrating Our Kinship With All Creation*. Several of his works have centered on the intersection of science and spirituality, such as *Revolutionary Spirits*, which sought to demonstrate that our founding Fathers’ views merged religion with the intellectual discoveries of the Enlightenment. But *Blessings* is by no means the first time Kowalski has focused on creatures (previous volumes include *The Souls of Animals* and *The Bible According to Noah: Theology As if Animals Matter*).

Since leaving the UU two years ago, Kowalski has taken temporary interim minister jobs in Santa Fe, N.M., and Salisbury, Mass. — specialized work with congregations in transition, he explains. He’s also found time to write and paint. One result is *Blessings of the Animals*, an engaging and often-humorous collection



of essays. Some stories are scientific, others are scientific. Did you know, for example, that our apes have been domesticated in under a 90 million years old? That a Buddhist teacher has protected his hive from disease with a meditation practice? One story is about Buckingham about Billy Loeber, who painted 25 portraits of prisoners that died in a Philadelphia zoo and then traveled to Africa to bury the paintings. (One of those graces the cover of Kowalski’s book.)

The book’s title derives from a sacred ceremony that Kowalski began at the beginning of his UU tenure in Burlington. Some people thought he was akin the first time he invited congregants to bring their pets to church — especially given the brand-new carpet. But, he relates in the book, “The dogs did singed hair during the hymns, but so far our four-legged guests have been the best-behaved members of the congregation.”

The 20-chapter collection, dedicated to Kowalski’s late dog, Smiley, does more than offer and entertain, it respectfully supports the author’s contention that we humans are only part of a much larger, and soulful, earthly family.

SEVEN DAYS: Several of your books focus on animals. Why?

GARY KOWALSKI: Animals or nature — the natural world is in the broadest sense. You don’t have to recognize very deep to find a bit of nature everywhere in my religion. It plays on different and different truths, but for me it’s been more the focus of my spirituality.

SD: Will you get another pet?

GK: No, my lifestyle hasn’t enabled me to do that. I am more of a dog guy, though we had chickens before chickens were cool.

SD: What’s your next project?

GK: Nothing in mind. I might write about children.



P P

Robert Beinenky, Hanover, N.H., 81

Therapist and following his long career as a child psychologist, Bob Beinenky has been a traveler like journeys to Russia and Haiti; in particular, was so frequent that a number of children in both those countries called him “Grandpa Bob,” he says. The trips weren’t casual vacations; Beinenky’s objective was to “teach how young people may be helped to grow up when adults’ lives aren’t available,” says the dad on his website.

In other words, he visited a lot of orphanages and other alternatives to family homes — some good, some horrific, fully disabused as a phone interview from his retirement community life travels, generally with Mary his wife and colleague of 30-plus years, resulted in a number of books and hundreds of photographs — nearly all focused on kids.

Now Beinenky has penned an entirely different kind of book. *Collective Memories of a Lost Paradise* sounds like it could be about any number of things, and you read the subtitle: *Jewish Agricultural Settlements in Ukraine During the 1930s and 1940s*. The story

volume is not only a very specific slice of history, it’s a memoir. Beinenky’s father, a Russian Jewish immigrant to the United States, was involved in a progressive group in New York City that brought trustees to Jewish farmers learning to work the land in

collective farms post-Russian Revolution. They were “not Bolsheviks or Zionists,” Beinenky writes, “but rather non-ideologically committed poor people seeking a better life.”

The lives of these farmers, and of the Americans who helped them, may be little known except to specialty historians and the families involved. Beinenky found his father’s stories while growing up in New York in the 1930s and ‘40s as his own progressive and humanistic

family life began — it records the memories of others who served the post-revolutionary Soviet Union, the Holocaust and World War II — written here in present-day prose.

SEVEN DAYS: Why did you write this book?



ROBERT BEINENKY

The motive was very personal — a really had to do with my spirit. Not only with my life but all sorts of questions. The most dramatic chapter for [our family] was the early 1930s period, when my father played a role in the Jewish farm settlements.

SD: Do you write for a living now?

RB: [Laughs] If I did, I’d be dead of starvation. I write what I like to travel, and I take notes. I probably have a couple thousand pages of ideas written down, mostly about how we could treat children at risk in the U.S.

SD: What will you write next, then?

RB: I’ve started, but don’t know if I’ll live long enough to finish. I want to pull together things from my experiences, partially about education, but also about human services, corrections and psychotherapy. Somewhere in there, I think there’s a message about how we could do things differently.

SD: How would you summarize that message?

RB: If someone asked me what I’ve learned, I’d probably say something like “Be nice to children.”



BEINENKY *Collective Memories of a Lost Paradise* Published by the Concordia Press, 141 pages. Price at concordiapress.com/newsstand

The Thief of Auschwitz by Jan Gohl, unmediated at 11, 128 pages, \$18 paperback, \$34.95 hardcover. Published by Endeavor January 15. Check out online January 16, 3 p.m. at Northshore Bookstore in Maine Center, Concord, and sign books on February 16, 10 a.m. at the Book House in Lufkin.

Blessings of the Animals: Celebrating Our Kinship With All Creation by Gary Kowalski. January 16, 201 page, \$15 hardcover, will read on Thursday, January 16, 7 p.m. at Phoenix Books in Burlington.

An Safety in Numbers by Olaya Lomera. Due 12/23 page, \$17.95.

David's Memory by L.E. Smith. Positive Press. 226 pages. \$25. Also: *How Good God Feels* Positive Press. 280 pages. \$14.95. Available from local bookstores and Amazon.com. Smith will read on January 16, 7 p.m. at Hoxa Chapter Bookstore in Lufkin.

Collective Memories of a Lost Paradise: Jewish Agricultural Settlements in Ukraine During the 1930s and 1940s by Robert Beinenky. Concordia Press. 140 pages. \$24.95.

P P

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It's All a Blurb

Who praised which Vermont book to the skies? Take our quiz and find out

BY MARGOT HARRISON

The book blurb is an undervalued art form. We're speaking not of

back cover descriptions (also, confusingly, often called blurbs) but of those *snappy* quotes from fellow authors, celebrities and the like that appear as extra sales bait on a book's cover or website.

A blurb from a big name can make a best seller. If Stephen King thought this book was a page turner, won't you? That's why publishers (or, increasingly these days, authors themselves) send out piles of books in hopes of getting a comment such as "I couldn't put this down!" from someone with more clout than a mere reviewer.

How much do blurbs really say about books? Enough for you to match the glowing somewhere with the work it recommends? To test your skills and knowledge of local lit, we've assembled (and often excerpted) 10 blurbs appearing on books authored by Vermonters in the past several years. Your challenge: to pair each one with its source. Some are a cinch, others will take guesswork. Find the answer on page 42.

We noticed three patterns in our read blurbs. First (and no surprise), the more famous you are, the more famous your blurb is likely to be. Second, Vermont politicians have a way with words; we didn't have to look far to find blurbs from former governor Jim Douglas, Sen. Patrick Leahy and State Sen. Phyllis Barrett (another published novelist). Third, not only is Howard Frank Mosher one of Vermont's most prominent writers, but also our *unofficial* blurb czar. That guy can blurb like nobody's business — and, karma being what it is, his most recent book scored its own heavy-weight blurb from fellow Vermonter John Irving. Can you spot it? ☺



"If you have a special mountain in your life, you'll read it with understanding; if not, it will make you want to get one!"

1

"[Author] has emerged as a new voice in Vermont's impressive pantheon of creative writers and a powerful one."

5

"... sort of like a comic book by Virginia Woolf. You won't believe it until you read it — and you must!"

6

"[Author] has always been a gifted storyteller; this time there is an added euphoria in his storytelling — borne by the hope he and I share: for now, we have dodged a bullet that thirty thousand American men don't dodge every year."

9

10

"Written with great humor, wisdom, common sense and compassion, [book title] is a uniquely American memoir by a very insightful American individualist. I loved it."

13

"Haunting and harrowing, [book title] offers enthralling suspense but also so much more: a richly poignant tale of the families we're born into and the ones we build ourselves."

2

14

"[Book title] is an absolutely phenomenal read — The Andromeda Strain for the 21st century. Ladies and gentlemen, meet [author] — the new Michael Crichton."



"If you have ever eaten a tomato — or ever plan to — you must read [book title]."

3



15

"In this breakout novel, the personal and the political are mirrored metaphors for one another. With poetic, incisive and sometimes incandescent prose, [author] explores the terrors, fears and hopes of our world."

"[Author] takes the novel of ideas in his two hands and then, in masterly fashion, proceeds to rip its guts out."

4

"What I have to say about this book is very simple: Read it, please. Straight through to the end. Whatever else you were planning to do next, nothing could be more important."

7

"Once you've read the final chapter you'll want to take a drive up to [author's] farm and experience the delight of meeting him in person."

8

"Dear reader, you will never again pass an exit ramp in Vermont or elsewhere as once you did."

11

"[Book title] is a beautifully written work of fiction, combining the unspeakable terror of a father's worst nightmare with an immortal evocation of what must be one of the last best places in these United States."

12

"[In book title,] [author] artfully blends the wry with the witty, the sublime with the subliminal, and the endearing with the enduring."

16

THE SOURCES

A. Ruth Reichl on Barry Estabrook's *Timetoland: How Modern Industrial Agriculture Destroyed Our Most Alluring Fruit* (2012)

B. Diane Steinberg on Alison Bechdel's *Are We My Mother? A Comic Drama* (2012)

C. Mark Pendergast on Susan V. Small's *My Dad, What Have We Gotten?* (2011)

D. John Irving on Howard Frank Mosher's *The Great Northern Engine: A Writer's Journey Home* (2012)

E. Barbara Kingsolver on Bill McKibben's *Earth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet* (2010)

F. Vermont State Sen. Philip Baruth on L. E. Smith's *Twelve Is Nine* (2012)

G. Howard Frank Mosher on Stephen Russell Pignatelli's *DOT Walking: A Novel* (2011)

H. Former Vermont governor James H. Douglas on Ben Marsh's *Golden Times: Tales Through the Superhouse Window* (2008)

I. Megan Abbott on Jennifer McManis's *The One I Left Behind* (coming January 2013)

J. Howard Frank Mosher on Dan Breen's *The Strand Boy* (2009)

K. Bill McKibben on Daniel Hobbs's *Hunger Mountain: A Field Guide to Mind and Landscape* (2012)

L. Sen. Patrick Leahy on Steve Delaney's *Vermont: Six Seasons Reflections of the Rhythms of a Vermont Year* (2007)

M. Vermont poet laureate Sydney Lea on Neil Shepard's *Vermont Exit Ramps: Poems* (2012)

N. Howard Frank Mosher on Beach Conger's *It's Probably Nothing: More Adventures of a Vermont Country Doctor* (2011)

O. Howard Frank Mosher on Sara J. Henry's *A Cold and Lonely Place* (coming February 2013)

P. Brad Thor on James H. Tabor's *The Deep Zone* (2012)

Cryptic Connections

Jim Rader's word puzzles keep us guessing

BY MEGAN JAMES



I was around this time last year that Jim Rader — a former harleming city clerk and constraint scholastic in Rader's congressional office — unveiled the word puzzle he had invented 40 years earlier: the Quip-Find. His book *Never Play Leap Frog With a Unicorn: The Quip-Find Book of Advice* introduced puzzle lovers to his character, being a quip, or Rader's cryptic, is a letter-filled diagram paired with a traditional

cryptogram. Puzzlers use the diagram to decode the cryptogram.

Happy for puzzle people, there's a lot more where that came from: In his second book, *When Daring an Elephant: The 2nd Quip-Find Puzzle Book of Advice*, Rader offers 180 more witty and brain-boggling Quip-Finds. He has improved the puzzle's design in that book, switching out the cryptogram's blank lines for the X's squares, and revised the instructions

to make them easier to digest — all in response to criticism he's received since the first book came out. "We've got a few fans out there," Rader says.

Quip-Finds are certainly a challenge — this puzzle lover has created annually over them — but, with a little practice, they pay off. As Rader writes in the new book, "The best advice is both weighty and witty. And you have to search for it."

Here are two Quip-Find puzzles, plus instructions to get you started. Answers are on page 62. ☺

F When taking an elephant: The 2nd Quip-Find Puzzle Book of Advice by Jim Rader. CenterSquare 162 pages, \$9.95. Rader posts a new puzzle every day at shop.quipfind.com.



Instructions: Find the familiar saying hidden in the diagram. It is spelled out in the cryptogram below, where a different number represents each letter. The saying is also spelled out in the diagram as one continuous thread linking letters that are adjacent either side to side or corner to corner (think "knight"). Counting back to letters already used is permitted.

Start by guessing a word that fits in the cryptogram and is spelled out in the diagram. Then work back and forth between the cryptogram and diagram to fill in the gaps and find the saying.



1	2	3	2	4	

5	4	6	7	5	

8	1	9	10	1	2

10	3	2	4		

5	11	12	4	5	9

1	2	3	3	4	

1	5	6	7	8	2

10	11	5	12		

9	13	14	13	15	

8	2	4	9		

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The Shopper



Giving as good as it gets **BY DAN DOLLES**

THE SHOPPER Dan Dolles, 34
100A Burlington
Job: Music Editor

Father

As a devoted father for since I was a teenager, I set in denial that the band has descended into "dad rock," so so many nearby critics have suggested in recent years. Or I set in denial, anyway, until Pops recently asked if I had heard this "new" new record, *The Whole Love* by "the Wilsons." Well, well, if you can't hear me, you won't, right? Say, at the 2014 Nickel Sound, the three-day, Wilsons wanted — and Higher Ground Presents presented — acts and music fest at MASS MoCA in North Adams, Mass. I just hope I'm old enough not to be embarrassed by my parents. \$80/224/140

Label Sound: What's Music and Arts Festival June 21-23 collaborationfestival.com

Pet

At least once per dog-park visit, I get asked about the breed of my awesome-looking fancy-little pointer, Rockley. Depending on my mood, I might say "poi hoi!" just to enjoy the nervous expressions on the face of the guy whose ill-mannered toy schlock is obsessively tapping at Rock's back. Or I might make up a breed and see if they catch on. ("It's a Rhodesian Cockerhounds.") Truth is, I have no idea what my little man's true lineage might be, so I'm testing the eDNA DNA with the Wisdom Panel, which aims to find out once and for all. \$79.99

Put Pops of Woodstock \$500 Williston Road, South Burlington, 802-224-1233
Online: Woodstock Challenge 800-3362-4400.com

Long-Distance Girlfriend

This year, my long-distance girlfriend said she wanted something "Vermont-y" for Christmas to remind her of home and suggested I poke around the Vermont Country Store website. Well, the hell with maple syrup and flannel pajamas! As a boy's fan, I got into the risk of rendering myself obsolete — I decided on one of VCS' cutest "Vermont accessories." Because nothing says "Vermont" like a vibrator, am I right? (Just in case, how much was that maple syrup apron?) \$18.95-105.95

www.vermontcountrystore.com

Best Friend

Most of my friends tend to be pretty fancy people. That's especially true of my best friend, with whom I've been riding on various topics — OK, mostly dank jokes — since we were kids. We've always been able to crack each other up — see "dank jokes," preceding sentence. But I've got a hunch he could take his act to the comedy club. So I signed him up for the Standup Comedy 300 class at Spark Arts, where he'll learn how to walk a crowd, confront his stage fright and crack a good joke. Blue or otherwise. \$130 for a six-week class.

Spark Arts 100 High Street, Burlington, sparkartsvt.com



Welcome to the holiday season — and to the Seven Days guide to gifts. Every Wednesday for the last few weeks, we've been offering ideas for just about everyone on your list. For greater variety, a different writer has weighed in each week with a set of suggestions, unique presents of mind. (Note: Some of these gifts are figments of our imagination.)

Just what do we want this year? Just for you to shop local, please and thank you. ☺



Pregnant Friend

Trading cool gifts for my expectant friend is going to be an interesting challenge. The standard bottle of house obviously won't cut it this year. And every time I think to give her presents that are really for the baby, they seem to be about to become "dank present gifts" or whatever. I bet even in the world's best parenting store, just for fun, the Collecting Book for Pregnant Ladies by Vermont's Edie Joy is just the thing. This book is a series of green-up coloring books, it masterfully depicts the absurdities and indignities of being pregnant — thoughts involving your belly, pregnancy aches, constantly missing parties, etc. Plus, it's good practice for when labor comes of course, holding up, and gives her something to hang on to the baby until he does arrive.

A Coloring Book for Pregnant Ladies by Edie Joy, available at theexpress.com

Kid Brother

Dude just got his flannels this year, well, finally. It's a bit of a throw to the clothing drama with him through Woodstock is an especially harrowing exercise, as he — like most of you, apparently — hasn't quite mastered the art of navigating the Onion City's notorious roadshow. So his, "lyle!" as a four-letter word. So I'm getting him this rilly "Woodstock Spendings" T-shirt designed by local designer — and, full disclosure, 7D studio — Steve Haddock. \$14.

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Puzzle answers for page 35:
Never trust anyone over thirty.
(Jack Weinberger)
Happy Holidays From Seven Days

Answers for pages 36-37:
1K, 2D, 3A, 4F, 5G, 6R, 7E, 8H, 9D,
10M, 11M, 12J, 13K, 14R, 15C, 16L

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SEVEN DAYS

SEX
SURVEY

2013



Hey, Seven Days readers,

Do your feet hurt? Because you've been running through our minds all day. Actually, we haven't been able to stop thinking about you—and your creative sex-lives—since we read your incredible, hilarious, candid and oddly touching responses to our 2011 sex survey.

A lot can change in two years. And we don't want this relationship to stagnate. So we've got a new set of prying questions to ask you—a anonymous, of course. Why not slip into something a little more comfortable, put on some sultry tunes and get cozy with us? **On us, on February 22, you can savor the results in our biennial sex issue.**

Happy endings guaranteed.

Fill out this survey—preferably online at sevendaysvt.com—to be included in the 2013 results. If you use the paper ballot, send it to Sex Survey, c/o Seven Days, P.O. Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402-7164. Either way, the deadline is Friday, January 4, at 5 p.m. ☺

SAVE A STAMP! Fill out the survey
online at **»sevendaysvt.com.**

WHO ARE YOU?

Gender:

- ☐ Female
☐ Male
☐ M/F trans
☐ F-M trans
☐ Other _____

Age:

- ☐ 18 or younger
☐ 20-29
☐ 30-39
☐ 40-49
☐ 50-59
☐ 60-69
☐ 70 or older

Sexual orientation:

- ☐ Hetero
☐ Gay/bisexual
☐ Lesbian
☐ Asexual
☐ Other _____

Political affiliation:

- ☐ Democrat
☐ Republican
☐ Progressive
☐ Independent
☐ Other _____

Relationship status:

- ☐ Married/partnered
☐ Single
☐ Going steady
☐ In an open relationship
☐ Polyamorous

Occupation:

Where did you grow up? _____

PRIVATE PARTS

I was _____ years old when I lost
my virginity.

How many sex partners, if any, have
you had in the last year? _____

How often do you have sex?

- ☐ Multiple times a day
☐ Once a day
☐ A few times a week
☐ At least once a week
☐ At least once a month
☐ A few times a year
☐ Never
☐ Other _____

How often do you masturbate?

- ☐ Multiple times a day
☐ Once a day
☐ A few times a week
☐ At least once a week
☐ At least once a month
☐ A few times a year
☐ Never
☐ Other _____

How often do you watch porn?

- ☐ Multiple times a day
☐ Once a day
☐ A few times a week
☐ At least once a week
☐ At least once a month
☐ A few times a year
☐ Never
☐ Other _____

Are you satisfied with your current sex
life?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Do you feel sexy in your own naked
body?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

If you have a penis, is it circumcised?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

If you have a vagina, have you ever
dyed it?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Do you have any genital piercings?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

In a sexual context, what do you prefer
to call your genital(s)? _____

What is your favorite sex toy? _____

What is your go-to mood music for sex?

Be specific: _____

It's easier for me to get off...

- ☐ with a partner
☐ on my own

The most suggestive place I have
masturbated is _____

I _____ have sex on the first date.

- ☐ always
☐ never
☐ sometimes

If I come before my partner I _____
make sure we keep going until I have
her come, too.
☐ always
☐ never
☐ sometimes

My preferred safe-sensibility control
method is _____.

When it comes to pubic hair, I prefer
that my partner:
☐ has an untrimmed bush
☐ keeps the lower trimmed and tidy
☐ is totally hairless
☐ Who cares? As long as I'm getting laid
☐ Other _____

I have: (check all that apply)

- ☐ had an orgasm
☐ cheated on a partner
☐ been cheated on
☐ slept with an ex
☐ had sex with a relative
☐ had sex with a coworker
☐ had sex with someone whose name I
don't know
☐ had sex with more than one person
at once
☐ had sex in a public place
☐ used anal GCM
☐ had fantasies that wouldn't be
ethical to act on
☐ made a video of myself having sex
☐ uploaded and shared that video
online
☐ been to a swingers party
☐ seen a sex therapist
☐ paid for sex
☐ been paid for sex
☐ walked on my parents' having sex
☐ had sex while someone else watched

SEX SURVEY 2013

SEVEN DAYS SEX SURVEY 2013

47-43

- ☐ Switched someone else having sex
- ☐ Had sex with an animal

When I come, I could like _____

I never thought I'd enjoy _____

(but damn, do I now?)

My biggest turn-on is _____

The quickest way to turn me off is _____

At what point in a new relationship do you tell your partner about a specific fetish/ink you have?

- ☐ I make it clear exactly when I'm into in my online personal ad
- ☐ I broach the subject in person before we ever have sex
- ☐ I introduce it while we're having sex for the first time
- ☐ I bring it up after we've had sex a few times
- ☐ I only tell if my partner asks it out of me
- ☐ I don't really have any kinks
- ☐ Other _____

How do you most often communicate your desire to a partner?

- ☐ Text
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Talking in person
- ☐ Body language
- ☐ Other _____

If you're in an exclusive relationship, how would you react to the discovery that your partner is cheating?

- ☐ Break off the relationship immediately

- ☐ Get even with a one-night stand of my own
- ☐ Attempt to work through the infidelity together in with a couples counselor
- ☐ Forgive and forget; we all make mistakes
- ☐ Other _____

If you identify as straight or gay, have you ever had an outdoor sexual experience? If so, you're a straight-outdoor man who's had sex with a _____?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Tell us about it: _____

Have you ever gone to the hospital because of a sex- or masturbation-related injury?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Tell us about it: _____

Name the Verano celebrity you'd most like to bang: _____

What's your favorite sex scene in a movie?

What, if anything, are you embarrassed/shamed about sexually? _____

What's your biggest insecurity when it comes to sex? _____

If you're in a happily sized-up, long-term relationship, what's your secret to keeping things hot? _____

Describe your favorite sexual fantasy: _____

What else should we have asked? _____

Need some advice? Ask a question for Mistress Merve: _____

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SEVEN DAYS

BURL APP

The Homegrown Guide to Burlington, VT

SIDEDISHES

BY CORIN HIRSCH & ALICE LEVITT

The Chips Are Up

MONTPELIER EATERY OPENS IN 2017 (PAGE 42)

The closure of fabled shop *Barba Market* left a hole at 30 Elliot Street in Burlington. Last month, a very different international eatery filled it when **MONTPELIER** opened.

PHOTOGRAPHER ALAN SCOTT and his son, **ALAN**, were living in New York City when they decided to return to the "real town" of Burlington to open a chip shop. Scott-McConnell had previously lived in southern Vermont and was just back from five years in Cambodia, where he established the Global Child school.

For now, *Montpelier* has only two items on the menu: fish and chips, both fried in light olive oil, which is filtered daily for a healthier less-greasy product. The chips are thick-cut, akin to russets, which father and son double-dip for optimal, "belgian-style" crispness. The fish varies depending on what *Montpelier* can bring fresh to Burlington. Its currently featured is a mix of cod, salt and beer made at **MONTPELIER** just down the road.

A super locavore is in the works, and owner *Montpelier* says there's already an off-menu divergent bone-in butter and fried manzanilla, which he refers to as the fried Miss Bess of his once Scotland.

WHD gives a 10 percent discount to those carrying military ID, but its tag for "Your Support" policy is less conventional. Any manzanilla who plays at the eatery for an hour gets a free fish supper and beverage, though **WHD**'s Facebook page warns, "Other diners are entitled to see you off the stage if your playing does not please them."

—A.L.

Dishy Destiny

DINNER TO OPEN IN ACCUITY

It's been a busy day: a Mexican restaurant, a clean shack, a roadside and a long-running night club called *Denting*. The fortunes of the one-story building at 3300 Route 8 in Accutry have experienced an ebb and flow when tied to those of the nearby **ACCUTRY MOUNTAIN RESORT**.

Now the building's latest incarnation might draw the attention of Guy Fieri. The **ACCUTRY DINER** is due to open there this week.

Co-owner **BOB REED** and **NETTY BARTON** will serve three meals a day, six days a week, though will be the only establishment in town serving dinner since *Gus Del* closed that year. "We asked around, and we heard, 'if you build it, we will come,'" Reed says. He and Barton ran a food truck in Accutry last summer and used to own a snack bar adjacent to *Quebec* George.

With that experience and in their belts, they've built a menu dense with all-American classics such as souvlakis, pan-fries and burgers but also peppered with slightly offbeat diner dishes such as "French Texas" toast, an Italian sausage-and-onion stack, fried rice-and-cheese bites and plates of liver and onions with bacon.

and washed potatoes. Reed adds that the kitchen will serve fresh seafood and steaks each night — along with beer and wine — and diners can order their chips with a *Montpelier* rub.

Open every day but Monday, *Accutry Diner* can be reached at 875-6263.

—C.H.

Lights On

CLOVERHOUSE RESTAURANT MOVES

Claver House, Colebrook's destination for well-garnished pub fare and upscale specials, will close its doors after six December 31 New Year's celebration. In January, owner Doug Bennett and chef Tom Carter will open the *Lighthouse* restaurant in the Colebrook Hampton Inn space previously occupied by *T. Bone's* Kitchen & Bar.



Carter says *Claver House* has outgrown its 50-seat home. The *Lighthouse* will seat 220 in its space, which includes a lounge and outdoor deck. The new restaurant, says Carter, will focus more on affordable \$10 during happy on the pub fare of his current shop. The menu will include a "build-your-own" option. Diners choose a protein, such as prime steak or seafood, then complement it with

a starch, a seasonal vegetable and a sauce such as port demi-glace or béarnaise. A \$100 set menu will be "consistent and fresh," Carter says. Before long, he plans to introduce a large specials menu similar to the one he fills with unusual duck, lamb and seafood dishes at *Claver House*.

—A.L.

Pub Life

MONTPELIER OLD FASHIONED TAVERN CHANGES HANDS

When **BARB HARRINGTON** purchased an 1842 residence in the center of Williston, Vermont, eight years ago, it needed heavy renovation — which *Harrington* did as elegantly as if he picked up a historic preservation award in the process.

The restaurant he created, **MONTPELIER OLD FASHIONED TAVERN**, has since become a Williston fixture. But now *Harrington* is exiting the business, he sold *Montpelier* this week to **HANNAH**. "I'm happy with what I did there. I hope it keeps going for a long time," *Harrington* says.

If *Alley's* name sounds familiar, it's because he owned **ALLEY'S PUB** on Burlington's Church Street before selling the business in 2009 and opening *Alley's* in Williston.

Now *Alley* plans to put that business up for sale in short order and return to the

town where he was born and raised. "I've looking forward to the four-mile commute," *Alley* says.

He'll keep *Montpelier's* menu and menu as they see fit for now, *Alley* says, but as existing memories, diners can expect a renovated interior as well as a revamped menu from executive chef **AM**. **OSER**, who will step on "We'll keep some of the staples, such as the burger," says *Alley*, but he suggests the fine may go the way of *Alley's* Den. There, chef **JAMES** (who rolled out a "trunk European-American menu," with dishes such as beef burgomaster, chicken pot pie and a *Portsmouth* pork chop).

The current *Montpelier* looks both a fryer and a large bay while *Alley* can't sell the first because of a zoning issue, he plans to expand the second. "There will be more of a working bar, and we'll serve



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ALLEY'S PUB

BY ALLEY

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Soup du Jour 4-7 PM

CF: Some of the vegetables were overly soft, while the beef was a bit chewy for soup. But the red-orange broth was warm and comforting, with just a touch of heat — it would be nice on a cold winter's day.

The split pea was thick, like a stew, and very starchy. I felt like I had just tried to swallow cannon. For being packed with vegetables, it didn't have much flavor.

AUGUST FIRST

140 South Champlain Street,
Burlington, VT 05406

Soups we tried: Thai chicken split pea
Cost per bowl: \$5.25
Bread per bowl: One slice of olive bread

SH: This soup was heavy on the chicken and light on the "Thai." It might have passed for Thai 15 or even 30 years ago, before greater Burlington's Thai and Vietnamese revolution, but let's face it, we're all become a little more worldly thanks to the solid offerings of spots such as Tany Thai and Pho Hang, so, yeah, not a bad soup. But in 2012 it takes more than a dash of coconut milk to make something Thai-tasty.

Sweeter and browner than the Maine soup version, this split pea was the Linda Elder Award for the day (come on, what pea-soup review would be complete without an Elderist reference?).

AL: Sure, the Thai chicken could have used some ginger or lemongrass, but I still found the economy-boost satisfying. More spice would have been nice, but I was happy to be practically drowning in tender chicken.

The split pea splashed out of its container into the bowl like thick applesauce. If only a pinch of pepper made it almost edible.

Neither soup combined well with the provided olive bread, which is delicious on its own — two tastes that do not taste great together.

CC: Having lived in the Thai-food mecca of New York City for nine years, I've spent plenty of time plucking that scraps of chicken out of my boyfriend's soup and dumping the rest. While it's not fair to demand the best of the big city's cuisine elsewhere, I had misgivings of a restaurant recently closed here with perfectly wilted almonds at hand balancing things up. This bowl was too thin for my liking and tasted more like plain chicken broth than anything else.

MIRABELLES

198 Main Street, Burlington 05402-3274

Soups we tried: Nordic winter vegetable with barley, turkey vegetable
Cost per bowl: \$5.25; these bowls were the largest I've tried by a good measure
Bread per bowl: For two soups we received one and a half slices, though they were among the most delectable

SH: With the full spectrum of winter vegetables available to us, I couldn't wait to have my hait blown back by what would surely be an almost psychodelic blast of color. What did I find instead? Khaki. This soup was without exception, both the color and flavor of Duchère's worry-free, refined-it khaki.



**THE SILKY,
WELL-SEASONED AND
CREAMY POTAGE
DESERVED BETTER THAN
THE SOLD CUPS FROM
WHICH WE DRANK IT.**

As for the turkey veg, I could swear this soup came straight out of the Gordon Elementary School hot-lunch program.

CC: I call the Nordic vegetable soup monochrome mottley. I call the flavor... well, what flavor?

CF: What's in the Nordic vegetable? Is it meat?

Why was there shit in my turkey soup? This tasted like something you'd eat at a hospital.

AL: I trusted the gourmet cooks at Mirabelles to do better, especially with tantalizing menu-soup specials that day including soup-vent with lemon chicken and considering the superb quality of its baked goods. The

pottery-filled veggie soup tasted like the work of Mom on a health binge.

Herb-like-tasting chunks of hard turkey dominated the other soup, and an odd assortment of starches, including overcooked pears and chickpeas.

CHEF'S CORNER SOUTH END

228 Flynn Avenue, Burlington 05408-7001

Soups we tried: butternut-squash bisque, Italian Wedding
Cost per bowl: \$5
Bread per bowl: Two slices, plus butter

AL: The bisque would have made perfect sense served in china on a white tablecloth. The silky, well-seasoned and creamy potage deserved better than the Solo cups from which we drank it.

I may have been even more impressed with the ultra-thick Wedding soup. The meaty broth had an almost grilled flavor, as did the rendered meatballs. This was the best-balanced soup of the day, with just enough heat and the perfect amount of salt to draw out every bit of flavor.

SH: My wife, Maggie, and I really miss soup-soups. Our favorite dish was the butternut-squash soup they ran as a special in colder months. Chef's Corner's version of the soup was every bit as good and achieved what I presume to be the place's mission: offering actual gourmet food in a handy grab-'n'-go format.

CF: The Italian Wedding meatballs were nice and garbely, and the soup was loaded with onion, rice, carrots and herbs. Individually, all the parts were quite nice. But the broth was overwhelmingly salty for me — it resembled sea fish sauce.

CC: Chef's Corner delivered in a big way. The bisque was a perfect shade of orange, just the right thickness and full of flavor. Sometimes all it takes is a handful of ingredients prepared with care. By far my favorite of the bunch.

To be fair, I hadn't got soups down from my butternut-bisque high when I sampled the Wedding soup. The broth was full of flavor and greens, and I detected notes of thyme, which I love. A bit salty for me, but, again, by that time my palate had had enough.

SIDEdishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 47



Vermont microbrews," he says.

Peter Yee of Yellow Sign Commercial handled the deal, confidentially listing Macy's for sale.

— C.R.

Crumbs

LETTUCE FOOD NEWS
Ying Montgomery Center is on its way to becoming a tourist destination — and, perhaps, a culinary one. When the shopping mall located at 240 Main Street, it will give that building a very different character from its predecessor, the late on Trout River.

SCOTT HARRIS, the photographer behind the book *Guy in America*, and his partner, **WICK SARGENT**, purchased the ten-foot spring and worked on renovating the space into something

worthy of a Travel + Leisure photo shoot. They recruited New York consultant Will Crutchley to assemble a small-plates pub menu that the public can taste this Saturday. Pusfield says to expect the opening of an additional, fine-dining restaurant as soon as next month.

For now, the pub will serve what Pusfield calls "re-invented, worldly comfort food." On a given night, five might range from Cuban shoulder roastbeef and chicken lovers with deviled eggs to pad Thai and potstickers, he says.

— B.L.

Nasty Fer, featuring brewer **SHANE HILL**, has hit the newsworld.

In "Setting the Bar," a grinning Hill appears alongside pictures of both his brewery and his beard, which writer Spike Carter says are "delicious enough to win over wine-and-spirits lovers" because some of them, such as the bourbon-burnt-aged porter *Stash of Tragedy*, blur the line between wine and beer as first sip.

Carter is clearly mistaken, maybe. *Nasty Fer*'s 1.2 million subscribers will soon be, too.

— C.H.

try hard to achieve, but **WILL MONTGOMERY** delivery beer may be even more in demand now that the January 2013 release of

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Words to Chew On

Three flavorful local foodie books from 2012

BY CORIN HIRSCH



These days, I usually find new recipes online and cook them with as much panache as the kitchen counter. With the internet saturated with recipes, food blogs, eating sites and travel guides, it's easy to find a recipe or review for almost anything—and to forget that food knowledge is still flourishing in another medium: books.

Why spend money on the "hard copy" foodie equivalent of porn when you can find so much of it online? For one thing, a cookbook is much more fun to thumb through than a blue-and-white list of Google results. For another, a restaurant or farm guide tucked in your glove compartment is more useful than a cellphone when you find yourself with a one-hour signal—a commonplace occurrence in Vermont.

Most importantly, it feels good to pay for the work of writers who treat recipes 20 or more times, or distill out five nights in a row, so that you don't have to. (The job can be less glamorous than it sounds; just ask a food writer about her cholesterol level.)

This past year brought a handful of food and ag books from Vermont authors that are engaging but decidedly unbrilliant, including *Work: Knowledge* by Miki Marney Galt, *Cow*, and *The Death of The American Dairy Farm* and *Paul & Kandi's* *Roots*.

Classic and Culture: A History of Cheese and Its Place in Western Civilization. Thought-provoking fare that we've already reviewed and discussed in these pages, but not books to browse casually.

But we also received lighter offerings, five books that might serve as last-minute gifts or useful guides to stash in your car. Two are from Vermont authors, and one is simply focused, in part, on Vermont. Each is an ideal stocking stuffer for...

The dedicated locavore

As I walked down Newport's Main Street one evening last summer, a woman outside Woodcrest Bookshop handed me an elegant-looking book. Turned out it was her book, she was author Bethany Dunbar, a longtime writer for (and now co-editor of) the *Barnet Chronicle*. Dunbar calls her alma mater book, *Kingdom's Plenty: A Sustainable, Eclectic, Edible Guide to Vermont's Northern Kingdom*, "an extension of my work I have been doing for 25 years, telling these local stories." It's dense with colorful profiles of the places and people that compose the Kingdom's food scene.

In a string of two-page essays with fascinating photos taken by the author, Dunbar shares the backstories of the farmers,

restaurants and innkeepers she calls neighbors, writing in an approachable style that makes readers feel as if they've stumbled onto a tight-knit family. While Dunbar mentions big names, such as the Cellars at Jasper Hill, Claire's Restaurant & Bar, Hill Farmstead Brewery and Peck's Greens, it's her portraits of smaller places that give this book its charm. Many Vermonters may not have heard of Doe Little Farm in Barnet or Jean Pitt Specialty Cakes in Greensboro, for instance. Needed among these profiles are useful guides to local farmers' markets and seasonal events such as the Pond Skimming Celebration each spring in East Burke and Newport's Gingerbread House Festival in December.

Dunbar veers from straight-up journalism to "essay voice" and back, sometimes mixing her store of personal stories to illustrate the Kingdom's folkways. Her Aunt Maude comes up in relation to Quakely Country resort, and Dunbar describes her alarm at hearing poppers two weeks early and her appreciation of the "incomparable soccer" of being up as seeps to Taylor Farm and the art of sugaring. (She also offers valuable, no-the-know tips, such as noting that Taylor's Autumnaire in Barnet offers both regular and a taste of the farm's famous syrup.)

Kingdom's Plenty: A Sustainable, Eclectic, Edible Guide to Vermont's Northern Kingdom by Bethany Dunbar. Underhill: Edible. 280 pages. \$25.

Food Lovers' Guide to Vermont: A New Hampshire: The Best Restaurants, Markets, A Local Culinary Guide by Christine Moore and David Lipp. Globe Pequot Press. 400 pages. \$14.95.

Fit & Forward: Five Steps Forward, Healthy and Other Recipes by Christine Moore and David Lipp. Globe Pequot Press. 252 pages. \$14.95.

Classic and Culture: A History of Cheese and Its Place in Western Civilization by Paul M. Horowitz. Chelsea Green. 250 pages. \$24.95.

Work: Knowledge, Cash, Cows, and the Death of the American Dairy Farm by Miki Marney Galt. University of New Hampshire Press. 238 pages. \$27.95.

Like any food guide, *Kingdom's Plenty* isn't always up to the moment, for instance, Dunbar profiles Poughkeepsie Creamery, the Albany cheese-making facility recently destroyed by fire, and owner Mirna Mero. "She still holds onto her dream to become a farmer, but for now, the cheese business occupies all of her time," Dunbar writes. They print,

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added just before the book went to press, notes the five.

Now, more than a year later, Harris is poised to become the farmer and butter maker at Honey Farm in Hyden, South. Such is the casually shifting world of food and agriculture that Dunbar's solid book captures the possibilities that are likely to be on our steps for years to come, and the farms that will be around even longer.

The road tripper

Steady as a plow but more bluish style in execution is *Food Lovers' Guide to Vermont & New Hampshire: The Best Restaurants, Markets & Local Culinary Offerings*, a squat, square book that ambitiously aims to highlight every significant food experience inside the two-state borders.

Authors Patricia Harris and David Lyon, also the Hungry Travelers (the name of their longstanding blog), live in Cambridge, Mass., but they often traverse New England in search of cuisine-laden adventures.

And these travels rarely go on out, it seems. The book clocks in at 620 pages, 160 of those devoted solely to Vermont. Harris and Lyon found their way into some of the state's most rural corners, from Cambridge's Burger Barn to Swanton's Phishik Farm. Along the way, they discovered that the Belvidere State's John Delpha does barbecue once a week, that the eaters at Montpelier's Maine Farm are "intense", and that the Marketplace at Lincoln Park Vineyard is a "meat, dairy wine with black current and cherry notes".

It's always interesting to see how out-of-state view Vermont, and to decide if you agree on points such as whether Church & Mart's dishes tend to "resemble two strong flavors or two textures or both." I learned a few things, too, the instance, that regulars of South Hero's Blue Middle River demanded the restaurant rent its gorgeous staffed meadow to the moon. That chef Doug Wick (of May's Restaurant at the Inn at Golden Pond in New York) has been serving his

food

cousin of pork soup every night since 1883. And that you can get frog legs at East Dorset's Chatterbox Restaurant.

Major props to Harris and Lyon if they truly ate everything mentioned here, that's a lot of eating.

The aspiring baker

Our office seems to have an aching, long distance love affair with dough. In fact, Paolo, though she probably doesn't realize it, I've told her in a moment in at least one occasion, and last year we asked her to help judge a dinner competition in part of Vermont's Best event. Well, last spring, Seven Days' coeditor, Paolo's Polina devoted a feature to Ina Garten's book *Pastry Forward: Pies, Tarts, Tarts, Galaxies and Other Pastry Extravaganza*, breaking her one-pastry-a-year rule to turn out a crumble, a pie and a tart, with nearly delicious results.

Desire, as we like to call her, is a breezy and witty writer; her personal, dry waxes every page, and her no-nonsense instructions put successful, edible pies within reach of even the most party-challenged. Collaborator Tina Rupp's photos bring everything to life.

The prolific Hartford baker and cookbook author-turned book within a few years, *Pie It Forward* is also her most approachable to date. Recipes for Passion Fruit Chiffon Tarts, Puffy Pops and a Cajun-inspired Low-Country Bell the alchemist with tips on how to avoid "crustage" when baking cheesecakes and the ideal maple syrup to use when baking (Grade B).

Last week, I tried to find a copy of *Pie It Forward* to give as a gift, but three of four bookstores I called were sold out. Though said, Luckily, we don't have to wait long for Ina's Pastry next book, *Bake It Like You Mean It: Gorgeous Cakes from Inside Out*, her guide to all kinds of cakes, is due out in March. ☺

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calendar

DECEMBER 19-26, 2012

WED.19

Local Events

HELIX HAIRDRESSING MEETING: Hairdressers, when taking communications, are aimed at a wide range of professionals by a nationwide for local support to give feedback. Room 207 Island building, Campbell College, Burlington 7:45-9 p.m. Free info: 833-4443

community

IMPASSION NIGHT: I'm living participants play "Where's Lene in It Anyway?" style game in an evening/weekend session. Spots: Area, Burlington 8 p.m. Free info: 204-1087

crafts

HAND STAMP: Perfect for people who love words of art and jewelry that will be unique and fun. Burlington 8 p.m. Free info: 204-1087

OPEN BUNT & CROCHET: Teach and help! Free week-end classes taught by a professional. Burlington 8 p.m. Free info: 204-1087

etc.

CLUB OF THE WARRIORS OF FURRIE: Focus on the feline among us as they learn to culture and fun. Open to all who love felines. Burlington 8 p.m. Free info: 204-1087

events

ADULT BRIDE CLUB: Focus on all those who love to be a bride. Open to all who love to be a bride. Burlington 8 p.m. Free info: 204-1087

Arts & fitness

EVERGREEN FOR BOY CAR & MEDICAL USE: Class participants discuss a project and give tips that capture the car's life and use. City Market, Burlington 8 p.m. Free info: 204-1087

HEARTY/IN-A-COINCE: Powerful music plays are from the past and the future. Burlington 8 p.m. Free info: 204-1087

WALK/CLIMB: An evening session with a focus on the past and the future. Burlington 8 p.m. Free info: 204-1087

Arts & fitness

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Straight on 'til Morning

Why grow up? Northern Stage's production of *Peter Pan*, choreographed and directed by Connor Gullagher, explores this pivotal question. Newsweekers Eric Doherty and Katie Emerson star as Peter Pan and Wendy, respectively. In the midst of their many adventures, they meet Captain Hook, played by company veteran and Broadway actor William Thomas Evans. A talented youth ensemble and puppeteer Kira-Ann Chalmers bring the rest of JM Barrie's characters to life, while stunning costumes by Sarah Culligan and songs such as "I'm Flying" and "Never Never Land."

PETER PAN

Thursday December 19 and Thursday December 20 7:30 p.m. Friday December 21 through Sunday December 23 2 and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday December 26, 7 and 10:30 p.m. at Sugar Open House in White River Junction. See website for future dates. \$21 to \$35. Info: 802-244-1087



Gather Round

Since ancient times, cultures have honored and celebrated the winter solstice. Participants in the Zuni and Hopi tribes' Kachina festival ceremony honored the earth's return from its seasonal slumber, while some believe Britons' Yuletide exchange aligns with sunset on the shortest day of the year. For more than 30 years, Theatre Group Limited's Night First has drawn on these traditions with magic, mystery, music and storytelling. This year, first-time performers join seasoned members Deb-Orion, Stephanie Galles and Anne Neeson. You'll see to tell a tale of fairy itself. Music comes from Italy, the Moon from New Zealand, Cape Verde, Mongolia and more.

NIGHT FIRST

Friday December 21 at 8 p.m. Saturday December 22 at 4 and 8 p.m. and Sunday December 23 at 4 p.m. at Town Hall Theater in Burlington 218-23. Info: 802-244-1087

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WED 19 to W 24



DEC 22 | DANCE

Fresh and Funky

Growing up in Boston, Lianne Flaherty saw *The Nutcracker* many times. Years later, the founder and director of Green Mountain Performing Arts created a hip-hop interpretation of the holiday classic. Flaherty's colleague, Ernest "E-Knock" Phillips of MTV fame, takes the reins for *Hip Hop Nutcracker* — 2012 Series. New this season? A ballerina. Chino, conflicted about her role as a female whose dance styles differ from hers. In a production that combines *dissonant* discipline and culture, 55 students from elementary through high school perform with professional dancers and Phillips, who stars as the "Nutcracker."

HIP HOP NUTCRACKER — 2012 REMIX

Saturday, December 22, 4 and 7 p.m., at Harvard Union High School in South Oarebury. \$10-15. Info: 244-8800. greenmountainperformingarts.org

DEC.21 | MUSIC

With some call-and-response folk, others playfully Pink Floyd front man Jaziah Longo's vocals and guitar lead the other Grand Slamboyz, who are described as Sharkey McEwen — guitar, mandolin, jackets and bow — and Tink Lloyd — accordion, wigs, bow shoes and shawls. All quirk aside, these multi-instrumentalists bring their own brand of Americana to passionate live shows. Despite earlier success in a previous band, the three shunned record deals in favor of taking time off. Longo and McEwen attended art school, ultimately recruiting their professor Tony Zuzulo as drummer. The group plays a concert of holiday tunes — with a twist.

THE GRAND SLAMBOYZ
at Phony (at White Mountain) 1000 Main St.
Friday, December 21, 7:30 p.m., at Harvard Union High School in South Oarebury. \$10-25. Info: 244-8800. slamboyz.com

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THEATER

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SPORTS

JOHNSON HOCKEY CLUB
The Johnson
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THU.20

THEATER

JOHNSON HOCKEY CLUB
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THEATER

JOHNSON HOCKEY CLUB
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FOOD & DRINK

JOHNSON HOCKEY CLUB
The Johnson
Hockey Club
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THEATER

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Shamson and Darin were taking their new family home to Northfield Falls where the twins would be welcomed by all. We wish them all the best and continued joy and happiness.



Roger R. Short
MD, OB/GYN



Roger A. Knowlton,
DO, FACOG,
OB/GYN



Jessica, RN
OB Nurse



Elizabeth, RN
OB Nurse



Ted Leyshon, MD
Anesthesiologist



Steve, RN, LNC,
RNC, Lactation
Consultant



Rhonda, RN
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DRAWING FASHION Weekly on Thurs, Jan. 30-Mar. 14 6:30-8 p.m. in class Feb. 24. Cost: \$20. SEA/Headline, 2524 N. Vermont St. Location: SEA/Janet 135 Church St., Seattle. Learn the basics of fashion draw- ing. Students will draw and paint using gouache, watercolor and markers and will be encouraged to create their own designs and experiment. Mixed level/series. Open to both beginners and advanced students. Some prior drawing experience is helpful. Class will be held at the University of Washington.

Key-Word-Model: Interview
Jocquelye Heloise Lefebvre

**RECEIVED BY: Mrs. Mary Ann
Tate - Jan 26, 1992 @ 2:30 PM
from Mr. Claude Tate, 2815 N. Main
St. Tulsa, OK 74103
Subject: BIC/PCA members
Solicitation of members (Laurel
BIC Center 1313 Church St.
Tulsa, Okla.). Let's hope I contact
with members, makes suitable
info. Will be an emphasis on studies
work, this also is a reminder of the
importance of the study of the Bible.**

on your work. RCA provides a free online course, pending fees and drying costs. Instructor: Linda Jones.

PRINTING/FORMING 1704040
 Jan 30/31/84 28 4-10 10 pm...
 Monday on West Coast. CISA/BCA
 members. 12:00 noon members.
 Location: RCA Pk. Studios 190
 West St. San Diego. Jan local
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 printing techniques of coloring.
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8540700 NY SALNA: Non
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 Ave., Burlington Info Type

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only. Adrienne Ward 898-9949. This ongoing, self-led and facilitated therapy (2017) you attend on Thursdays from 9:00-10:30 a.m. This group consists of five to six participants and is led by one of the four DFT instructors or will be led by Adrienne. 3 steps: Transcendental Meditation, Transcendental Meditation, and Transcendental Meditation. Advanced registration and/or information session required.

yoga

EVOLUTION YOGA Shakti Shakti yoga 10:10-11:00 a.m. Location: Evolution

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Scene Poll

Local musicians weigh in on the best music of 2012

BY DAN ROLLS

Recapping the best music from a given year is always overwhelming, so we asked local musicians, fans and assorted tastemakers for their takes on the best albums (local and national) and "must-read" concert series in this year. We also added a "wild card" category that was completely optional. Here's what they said.

Caroline O'Connor (Vedora)

- Local album: Michael Chorney and Dollar General, *Dispositions of the Ordinary*, and Waylon Speed, *Volunteer*
- National album: Shania Twain, *Tramp*
- Concert: Sleepy Sun/White Hills at the Monkey House in April, and Anders Parker/Will Johnson at a house show in Montpelier in September



Anders Parker (Anders Parker Cloud Badge)

- Local album: Myrnye Smith, *Myrnye Smith*
- National album: Neil Young and Crazy Horse, *Peddle While Paul* ("What's for supper, Neil?") (Guitar, guitar and more guitar!)
- Concert: Thronon Meere at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, Burlington. Also, the Walking Windows festival in Wisconsin was great. "We sure glad it exists. I hope that if grown old can bring us more more national acts."

Mike Luoma (music director, 104.7 FM the Point)

- Local album: *Swale, A Small Arrival* (I've been reargued by the work of Amanda Quisenberry since the Wide World days, but no song of hers hit me quite like "If You Get Lost" did.)

- National album: John Mellencamp, *From the Ground Up*
- Concert: Bittern Thresher at Higher Ground

Sean Hood (Hello Shark, 7D freelance music reviewer)

- Local album: Myrnye Smith, *Myrnye Smith* (Hundsdorfs Burlington's best post-breakup album.)
- National album: Justin Townes Earle, *Nothing's Gonna Change the Way This Feel About My Now*
- Concert: Nancy and Great Valley at a packed living room right at summer's end
- Wild card: I'm not a local for Shelby Stender's double album, *Colder Stars* (Just better ya hold, boys already, can't wait)

Eric Olsen (Swale)

- Local album: *Swale, A Small Arrival* (Just? I don't know about that. *Swale's* Absolutely. Alive all the half and full and sidetracking and late weekends and broken teeth and hospital bracelets and endless bedrooms and solemn black and white and rude awakenings over the past decade, this album finally became physical. It's like having a third kid, sans diapers.)
- New local album: Father John Misty, *Fear Fun*
- Concert: My favorite night this year, where I was shocked and proud to be living in RVT, was the Vermont premiere of *A Band Called Death* and the after-party at the Monkey House. I saw Death perform, never that night. No comparison.
- Wild card: Alina of the Year-Ready Eagles. If you have to ask, you may never know why. He owned our little corner of the world into the center of the galaxy, one show at a time.

Matt Burr (Grace Potter and the Nocturnals)

- Local album: Beary Vices, *That Is a Future*
- National album: Father John Misty, *Fear Fun*
- Concert: Caroline Chocolate Drops, Bread, Flooding Action

Beckie Sheloskie (talent buyer at Charlie O's, Montpelier)

- Local album: Sgt. Jack, *Whiskey Eyes*
- National album: Yeezus, *Yeezus*
- Concert: Public Enemy at Higher Ground

Michael Chorney (Dollar General)

- Local album: Wooden Dreamers, *Spaced*
- National album: Haim, *Nat sure I really love one*
- Concert: Saturn People's Sound Collective at the May Inn at Goddard College. Simply one of the best concerts I have ever heard by anyone, local or not.



Knytte Lander (State & Main Records)

- Local album: First Crush, *Halfway Home*
- National album: The Daylight Tapes, *Handwritten*
- Concert: Billy Bragg at Higher Ground. (The man who changed music, war and love for me. War was so new, he talked to me like a old friend after the show. A true marvel, that Billy.)
- Wild card: Death, live at the opening of *A Band Called Death* at Eastern Connecticut. Punk rock is born again, again in Vermont.

DJ Disco Phantom

- Local album: Myrnye Smith, *Myrnye Smith*
- National album: Kendrick Lamar, *You Need a Change of Mind*
- Concert: Red Kolls with Adam Aracuan and the Experience at Higher Ground. (It was like nothing I had ever seen before.)
- Wild card: I saw Jesse Rivers at the Flynn earlier this year and it was awesome. She still has got it, and it was outrageous.

Alex Budney (talent buyer at Nectar's)

- National album: Myrnye Smith, *How Do You Do*
- Concert: Furbone at Club Monsoon

Tohy Aronson (NNA Tapes)

- Local album: Blanche Blanche Blanche, *Wink With Both Eyes* (This is truly next-level pop instrumentation.)
- National album: John Helder, *Altoona*
- Concert: Horse show with Peter Young, Downshift, A Snake in the Garden, Lord Bird and Seltzer 4300
- Wild card: I am constantly impressed with Burlington's ability to be open to new music. In a world of scarce event stations and coverage of music based on cultural implications, it's great to see Burlington accepting new local and touring bands, [giving] a chance to show, dance or just be present with the jams.

Bob Wagner (Bob Wagner Band)

- Local album: Zach DeFrost, *Somewhere in Between*
- National album: Jay Farrar, Anders Parker, Will Johnson, Yan Marston, *New Math*
- Concert: I had a special concert at the M. Ward show (Higher Ground), though I'm sure it's not my far pick of the year.



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WED.19 burlington area

CLUB HYPERMINE New Orleans and
Jazz-Lupe Dub-Musique (10:30) 8
p.m. \$10-15

FRANKY & B Karaoke 9:30 p.m. Free

MALFUNKIE David Hargrave
(Jangle/compromise) 8 p.m., Free.
Barred with Eli Craig Mitchell
(Jangle) 10 p.m., Free

AP & PVR Karaoke with Hargrave 10
p.m. Free

HARMAITAN PIZZA & PUB Open
Meatballs-Lupe 10 p.m. Free

MONEY HOWE Lily & Mark
Sokolovs (Jangle) 9 p.m. \$5-10

NECTAR & APOLOKALAPSE Mid-
west (Rock) 9 p.m. \$10-15

ENTRAP & DRILL Chad
Hedder (Jangle/compromise) 7
p.m. Free

RADIO BEAN Exotic/Beats (Jangle
Rock) 7 p.m., Free. Irish Sessions 9
p.m. Free

RED HONOR Rock/Romantic &
the Live (Rock) 7 p.m., Free. On tour
(Pre-Reg) 10 p.m., Free

SEVEN PARADE Josh Pardo
and Brett Lerner (Jangle) 7 p.m.
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central

BARBOS Acoustic Blues Jam with
the Great Sundays 8 p.m., Free

THE HONEY Open Mic with John
Lockard 9 p.m., Free

WARMER BAR Open Mic, 8:30
p.m. \$10

champlain valley

30 HOURS Blues Jam 8 p.m., Free.

CITY LIGHTS Karaoke with Left &
Right Interdimensional 9 p.m., Free

ON THE BING BANGERY Open Irish
Session 8 p.m. Free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Tivoli
Night 10 p.m., Free

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regional

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THU.20

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CLUB HYPERMINE Brett Hughes
Holiday to the Meadows (Holiday) 9
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ROBIN TEA Robert Henke (Jangle) 7
p.m. Free

FORNMAN 3 PUB Party Night
(Jangle/compromise) 9 p.m., Free

FRANKY & B Karaoke 9 p.m., Free

MALFUNKIE Can-Legals (Jangle
(Jangle) 8 p.m., Free. The Harder They
Come (Jangle/compromise) 10 p.m., Free

RED HONOR SUPPORT SET Cafe
Frenchie (Jangle) 7 p.m., Free

FRANKY & B Karaoke 9 p.m., Free

LEVITY Standup Comedy Open
Mic (Jangle) 9:30 p.m. Free

HARMAITAN PIZZA & PUB Hot
Rock with JAZZBOB & POW! West
Pop (Jangle) 10 p.m., Free

NECTAR & Tivoli March With Tap

Hot Drink/Lemonade, 7 p.m. Free
Crisis Soul/Burnin' Hot/Carey
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5 BROWN LEMON PUB On-Demand
(Jangle) 9:30 p.m., Free

ON RAP BAR & GRILL Left For
Jangle (Jangle) 7 p.m., Free

RADIO BEAN Dave Hughes & John
Chapman (Jangle) 8 p.m. Free. Michael
Chamney & Dollar General 8 p.m.
Free. Sharon Hardman (Jangle) 10:30
p.m., Free. But Knight & the
Inevitable Soul Band (Jangle) 11
p.m., \$5

800 SQUARE Party/Standup
(Jangle) 7 p.m. Free. C.J. & Dog
(Jangle) 10 p.m., Free

FEU SQUARE BLUES NIGHT El Ciro
(Jangle) 10 p.m., Free

SARIN PARADE Shreya Gage
(Jangle) 8 p.m. \$5-10 donation

VIVIAN Thirty-Thirty 7 p.m.,
Free

central

BARBOS Sals Machine (Jangle
compromise) 8 p.m. Free

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- Strategies for working with culturally and linguistically diverse children
- Language rich instruction values serving vulnerable children & English language learners

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www.vthec.org/needtosetthis

music

CLUB DATES

MONDAY THROUGH SUNDAY

THU 30 & FRI

CHARLIE O'S DJ Crustle
(start) 10 p.m. Free

GREEN HIGHLAND TAVERN
Thurs/Tuesdays/Thursdays 9
p.m. Free

HUFFY KIFFIN'S Karen Rocco
Thursdays 6 p.m. Free

WHIMMY BAR (Drumbar)
Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Trivia with Top
Hot Potatoes/entertainment 7 p.m. Free

ON THE BLUE RAINBOW
DJ Anne [start] 9 p.m. Free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN DJ
Suzie [Top 40] 10 p.m. Free

northwest

REE & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

regional

HOMERIDGE [start] 10 p.m. Free

CHARLIE O'S DJ Crustle
(start) 10 p.m. Free

GREEN HIGHLAND TAVERN
Thurs/Tuesdays/Thursdays 9
p.m. Free

WHIMMY BAR (Drumbar)
Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

FRI. 21

burlington area

RACEDAY FIVE [start] 10 p.m. Free

ON THE BLUE RAINBOW
DJ Anne [start] 9 p.m. Free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN
DJ Suzie [Top 40] 10 p.m. Free

northwest

REE & KIMES A & S [start] 10
p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

WHIMMY BAR (Drumbar)
Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

regional

HOMERIDGE [start] 10 p.m. Free

CHARLIE O'S DJ Crustle
(start) 10 p.m. Free

NEEDS [start] 10 p.m. Free

ON THE BLUE RAINBOW
DJ Anne [start] 9 p.m. Free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN
DJ Suzie [Top 40] 10 p.m. Free

WHIMMY BAR (Drumbar)
Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

WHIMMY BAR (Drumbar)
Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

WHIMMY BAR (Drumbar)
Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

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Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

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DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

SAT. 22

burtonville area

RACEDAY FIVE [start] 10 p.m. Free

ON THE BLUE RAINBOW
DJ Anne [start] 9 p.m. Free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN
DJ Suzie [Top 40] 10 p.m. Free

WHIMMY BAR (Drumbar)
Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

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Carole Sing along with June
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DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

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Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

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Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

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DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

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Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

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Football [start] 9 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

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Carole Sing along with June
Hart 9:30 p.m. Free

REX & KIMES Carrie Picky
DJ (DJ) [start] 10 p.m. Free

MOON'S PLACE Trivia and
Lobster [start] 10 p.m. Free

RAIDERS P.E.C. American
Football [start] 9 p.m. Free



Michael Roberts
(*Wooden Dinosaur*)

- Local album, Michael Chorney and Doktor General, *Dispensation of the Ordinary*
- New local album, Sailing and the Sunsets, *Longtime Companion*
- Concert, J.P. Staines and the Tough Choices of the Spokane Church in Kootenai

Bryan Parmelee
(Parmelee)

- Local album: *Farm, Fore*
- National album: *Chairlift, Something*
- Concert: *Mercy at the Flynn Mass Stage*

Zack dePost

- **Local Albums** Michael Chorney and Dollar General, *Dispersion of the Ordinary*
- **National Albums** Patrick Watson, *Adventures in Your Own Backyard*
- **Concerts** Patrick Watson at Higher Ground with Andrew Bird
- **Wild card** Brett Lasser and Peter King, two upstate New York-based musicians that everyone wants in their band. And if you don't want them, you just never heard them also.

Rob Larkin
(The Shandies)

- **Local album:** The Tees, *The Tees*
- **Nearest album:** Ty Segal & band, *Simple-rebuse* (Might as well throw in his other 2012 release, too: *Twins This Is Not a Release*.)
- **Concert:** Rough Francis at the Precipice and the Cane Room at the Radio Room

Ben Aleshire
(*Vermont Joy Parade*)

- Local album: *Levelled Heights, Levelled Heights*
- National album: *Tik Tok, The Great Conspiracy*
- Concert: *America Rehearsal and the Royal House at the Monkey House*
- Wild card: *Heavenly Bodies* therock.com

position des Edelsteins. Man played on an actual copper plate in an antique vessel that was ancient.

Gregory Douglass

- **Local album:** *Asian Mitchell*, *Young Man in America* (Would make Joni Mitchell jealous)
- **Nonlocal album:** *Jesse Hoop*, *The House That Jack Built* (Would make Kane bush jealous)
- **Concert:** Vermont Symphony Orchestra at the Flynn Marketplace
- **Wild card:** A recent Jack & Diane performance reminded me of how much talent there is right here in the Green Mountains

Greg Davis

- Lead singer Chris Whetton, whose *Properties* (Cherry Records) himself opens with an epic, 22-track song cycle poem, *My about the end of the world and the beginning of a new universe*. Did you know that *the* is a cryptid under North Carolina?
- Nonlocal album, *Ethiopian Magic* was the record label of the year, for sure. Almost everything they released that year was in English, especially the thick folk records and the *Reverend and the Rev.* series.
- Concert, Earl Westman at *Walking Mountains* and *Drumming*, Rattle Young, a *Stella* (in the Garden at Miner's) last August.

Jason Cooley
(Blue Button)

- Local album: *Myra Furey, I Don't Want to Die*
- National album: *Jayendras, Collection Rock, Godspeed Your Black Emperor, Allahpuk! Don't Send Ascend* (One I can play at work, and one I can't)
- Concert: *Woe Is Me at the Monkey Home*. (Those days I much more enjoy watching a band happy to play their music instead of trying to look cool and withdrawn. Goodbye 3.)

Rebecca Kopycinski
(Nada Veritas)

- Local album: *Fuma, Fuma*
- Nonlocal album: *The xx, Chained*
- Concert: *South Coast*

Matt Rogers
(MSR Presents)

- Local album: *Maryse Smith, Maryse Smith*
- Nonlocal album: *Time (Impala, Contrivance)*
- Concert: *Theremin Masters at Unitarian Universalist Church in Arlington*
- Wild card: Very excited to see what the *Mixing Windows Festival* will look like this year. Should be a good one! (2)

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- **Olson Snow Sports Lounge**
Stratton Mountain VT
- **Espresso Ski and Ride**
30 River Street, Montpelier VT
- **Yatchewski's** 17 Eastern Ave.
St. Johnsbury VT
- **Boil and Eat Winehouse** on Route
10A West Lebanon, NH
- **The Alpine Shop** 104 Williston
Road, South Burlington VT
- **M and M Beverage** 12 Broad Street
Lyndonville VT
- **The Ski Bus** 33 Main Street
Burlington VT
- **Green Mountain Coffee Walkers**
Center and Café, Waterbury VT
- **Mountain Road** on Main Street
Acworth NH
- **Lenny's Shoe and Apparel** in
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- **Quay and Rob's** 30 Howard St
in the mill, Lebanon NH
- **Protein Street Cafe and Lounge**
Burlington St, St. Johnsbury VT
- **Outdoor Gear Exchange**
37 Church Street, Burlington VT
- **Like Champion Chocolates** at
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Waterbury VT

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music

CLUB DATES

NOT LISTED: 18+ UNLESS NOTED

SAT 12 & 4 PM

champlain valley

CHILLIN' UP Dance Party with
DJ TALL (Top 40) 5 p.m. Free
TWO-NOTHING TUBERN
Randi Nova (rock) 7 p.m. \$5
DJ JORDA (Top 40) 10 p.m.
free

northern

ONE SHINE 2 Jax (Jazz)
7-10 p.m. \$5 cover
CROWD WALK The Star Line
So the Road (Jazz) 7-10 p.m.
free

HAYTERWORK Andy Janna
and the Grubbs (rock) 8
p.m. \$5

MOJO'S PLACE The Dupont
Motels (jazz) 8 p.m. \$5
free

PANICKER PICS Courville
Transit Authority (rock) 8
p.m. Free

regional

HONGKONG Brian of the Fly
Quail 10 p.m. Free

TOWN CAFE & HUBBARD
All night (jazz) 10 p.m. \$5
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SUN.23

burlington area

HALLIBURTON DJ CASH (Jazz)
10 p.m. Free

LEWIS A Very Special Show
(rock) 8-10 p.m. Free

NEEDLE & H Vinyl Reggae
N'gini with Big Dog & Dennis 8
p.m. Free

ON TAP BAR & GRILL French
with Rob Young (rock) 10
p.m. Free

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

central

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

northern

RED & WHITE David Langdon
(jazz) 10-11 p.m. \$5 cover
David Langdon & Big John
7-10 p.m. \$5 cover

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

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Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SHIRAZ BEAN Silver Sessions
with Rob Young (Jazz) 10 p.m.
Free (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

To Whom It Concerns For the better part of the last decade, rebel-folkers **SECOND HAND** have been pillars of socially conscious music in Vermont. Putting folk shenanigans and rock aggression with hip-hop attitude — not to mention beats — the band is as high on stage as it is high minded. This Saturday, December 23, Second Agenda play Red Square in Burlington.



SAT 22 1V SECOND AGENDA NEW BRIDGES FOLK HIP HOP

REVIEW *this*

Loveful Heights, Loveful Heights

(SELF-RELEASED INDIE/POPCORE)

In a town like Burlington, a fine line often separates the crew scrapping and stuffing the hip local coffee joint — take a guess — and a handsome mid-city “supergroup.” It’s in the case with Loveful Heights.

While at its core Loveful Heights is a stripped-down acoustic duo consisting of Maggie Clifford and Jot Wright (of Jot Wright & the Indomitable Acid Band), the list of Burlington bevy brothers contributing their talents to the quartet self-titled, debut full-length album is impressive.

Throughout the album, Clifford and Wright share guitar, double and vocal duties to construct a beautifully blended sound, even over which bass (Tyler Judd), percussion (Dan Paschke) and keyboards (Chris O’Neil), Cold-lyred and pedal steel (Chris Lemer) — to name just a few — provide an understated embrace.



Instruments like the tabla (an Indian percussive instrument similar to the bangle) and the occasional soda-dressing euphonium (a somewhat lesser-known brass instrument) introduce more than a hint of the breeze into the clearly travel-inspired songs that inhabit Loveful Heights’ debut. The production, said to be one Lee Anderson — Wright’s husband and the proprietor of the previously mentioned cafe, Radio Blues — is sparse and airy and gives off 12 tracks on Loveful Heights a consistent, breezy quality. The room in which these songs

will forever exist deserves as much credit as does any of the players. It’s an undeniable presence.

The songs themselves range from old-fashioned poetry classes (Robert Louis Stevenson’s “Lord of the Mo”) to traditional (“O’Connell”) to housewifely originals (“Fireproof”). Vocal harmonies, which are no doubt the focal point of this record, are somewhat reminiscent of Peter’s softer excursions — songs like “The Park” and “Lonely Lonely” but where Peter avoids the bar vocals, Clifford and Wright have each other’s same-room voices to bounce off of. This would be noteworthy difference given these work a much more exposed feel than Peter, with all of her rich, cat scratch “Throat right, argue.”

The ease with which Loveful Heights is performed, recorded — by Burlington’s masterful Ryan Power — and delivered is truly a marvel. Loveful Heights by Loveful Heights is available at cdonly.com/lovelulheights.

SEAN HODD

Teleport, Bad for Business

(SELF-RELEASED CD DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)

In 1991, Barnes Teleport delivered a veritable masterpiece of shambolically earnest, blue-eyed soul called *Lost in Space* featuring that occupied a similarly featured place to soft-rock contemporaries Hall & Oates, Genesis and Kenny Loggins. This record — I’m sorry, what? The album came out in 2010! And most of *Teleport* had barely been born in 1991! You’re kidding me. Let’s try this again.

In 2011 — *seriously!* — Barnes Teleport delivered a veritable masterpiece of shambolically earnest, blue-eyed soul called *Lost in Space* featuring that evoked the heyday of soft-rock superstars Hall & Oates and Kenny Loggins. *Just?*

The record was so intensely concerned and exquisitely executed because it is a bygone era of American pop that is largely discarded — with good reason, in certain cases — as overt corporate schlock that belated the funkier cheesiness and white-tiger-skin-egg lechery of the genre, a great deal of musical ingenuity can be found



by those willing to hear it. On their recently released sophomore album, *Bad for Business*, Teleport put away soft rock’s light velvet robe and expose the raw — it’s a little hairy — musicalness underneath.

Where *Lost in Space* most clearly followed the lineage set forth by the aforementioned Hall & Oates, *Bad for Business* aligns with another era contemporary, Styly Duo — and particularly the Decade Fugue period contributions to that band’s canon.

The record opens on “Deal,” which adds around Mike Wheeler’s slick keyboard banter, and is accented by Adam Fuller’s gold-decked guitar. A matching foundation is set into various

by Sean Murray’s efficient bass lines and Kevin DeWitt’s delicate drum work. But this extensive, pure-collected tape is all window dressing for Wheeler, who so lead vocalist sings in a silky croon that it at once breathily self-assured and vulnerable.

Wheeler’s dawning, Cruise-esque delivery is bolstered by his bandmate’s crystal-like backing harmonies, which shimmer throughout — especially on cuts such as montage-worthy “Anybody as There,” “Last Glimmer” and sunny album closer “Bad for Business.” They frame Wheeler’s playfully progressive melodies and winsome ayle with their

It would be easy to dismiss Teleport as some home novelty. But that would be a mistake. The band is less about updating or honoring their pop heroes than picking up where those well-groomed predecessors left off. *Bad for Business* is an immaculate era often filled with dynamic and rare-fight compassion, superb performances and, yeah, a whole lotta blue-eyed soul.

Bad for Business by Teleport is available at teleportband.com

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HO-HO-HO-DOWN
SAT DEC 22

SAT DEC 22
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NO DIGGITY 90'S NIGHT
SUN DEC 23

SUN DEC 23
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MON DEC 24

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WED DEC 31
THU DEC 31

FRI DEC 31
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SUN DEC 31

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PHOTO: JAMES WINTERBURN

TUESDAY 12/10/12

WED. 26

burlington area

CLUB HICKORY The Redmonds, Rembrandts, Blue Licks, of the Robert Triffin, 10 p.m. Free

FRANKY D'S Karaoke, 9:30 p.m., Free

HALLFLOUNDER Scott Horgan, Jason Jorgensen, 10 p.m., Free
 Followed by DJ Craig McCall, 10:30 p.m. Free

APOLLO Karaoke with Horgan, 10 p.m., Free

HANDS OF IRON & FIRE Open Mic with Amy Lutz, 10 p.m., Free

HICKORY 9 Mallet Brothers Band, 10:00 p.m. 10 p.m., \$10-\$15, 10+

ON THE BAY & GRILL Ryan McCall, 10:00 p.m. 7 p.m., Free

RADIO DEAN 10:30 p.m., 10 p.m., Free

RED SQUARE Earl's Pub, 10:30 p.m., 10 p.m., Free
 Pop Top, 10 p.m., Free

SHINY HAMBURG Josh Fendy and Phil Lester, 10:00 p.m., \$5-10, 10+

central

BROTOS Acoustic Blues Jam with the Vocal Suspects, 9 p.m., Free

THE POWER Open Mic with Julie Lachard, 10 p.m., Free

SHINY BAY Open Mic, 8:30 p.m., Free

champlain valley

OFF LIMITS Karaoke with Let It Rock, 10:00 p.m., 10 p.m., Free

ON THE FREE BAKERY Carol, 10:00 p.m., 10 p.m., Free

TWO BROTHERS TRAVEL Tina, 10:00 p.m., 10 p.m., Free

northern

HIGH SPLASH Jason Hordick, 10:00 p.m., 10 p.m., Free

regional

HONKYPOL Dan Bolles, 10 p.m., Free

FRI. 21 / STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS (ROCKABILLY)



Close Up the Honky-Tonks

In 2008, local rockabilly stalwarts **STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS** delivered what many consider to be their signature album, *Live at Charlie O's World/Famous*. That success record captured the trio in its natural habitat, delivering classic honky-tonk hooks to eager fans in the dusty confines of Montpelier's great juke joint. This Friday, December 21, the boys return to Charlie for a pre-holiday howdown.



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This week:
Dan Bolles

Seven Days' music editor
reviews the top 10 Vermont
singles of 2012.



Wild at Art

"Beguiled by the Wild: The Art of Charley Harper" at the Montshire Museum of Science

Charley Harper was brilliant, his artistic spirit measured in clever design, bold color and whimsical charm. He also had a writer's talent for witty wordplay. Harper (1923-1987) was a prolific illustrator and graphic designer who became best known for his whimsical prints featuring modernist, stylized images of animals. His work adorned innumerable posters, magazine articles and books — notably 1963's *The Golden Book of Biology*. Though Harper's accessible images were suitable for children's illustrations, the unique style he called "minimal realism" was in fact highly sophisticated. As he liked to say: "I try to lose everything out."

REVIEW

That sophistication is apparent in a 24-page exhibit titled "Beguiled by the Wild: The Art of Charley Harper" currently at the Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich. The Virginia Living Museum caused the touring exhibit from works in a private collection. At the Montshire, there's a local bonus: a competition show from first-year students at the Center for Cartoon Studies in White River Junction. In a class last fall, their assignment was to create a one-page cartoon about an aspect of the natural world using Harper's visual techniques. Harper was especially fond of birds — a quote of his affixed in the wall says, "I'd much rather draw birds. There are more possibilities." Perhaps because the task could do a lot with circles. He handily depicts an owl, for example, in the piece titled "Phooooooow!" Unlike Harper's more colorful pieces, this one sets the brown and gray creature against a black background. It is, after all, nighttime when owls stalk their prey. In this case, it's a clunk, which inspired one of the artist's pun- and rhyme-filled captions: "How do you like your clunk, snuck? Kinky? But the Great Horned Owl — it can be easily lost in its belly." As for the maximally pronounced stinker, Harper concludes: "He was planning to eat it when the owl dropped by — it's only once in a lifetime he gets taken out for dinner!"

In a work titled "Polcan Peany," a gull is eating a "mackerel for his guller" straight from the creel of a brown Polican. In a particularly funny print called "Big Red Ant," six mezzanine peck over a lone,



THE UNIQUE STYLE HE CALLED "MINIMAL REALISM" WAS IN FACT HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED.

eyes glowing in the dark and fixed on the orange-red semicircle on a tripod in the foreground's beveled grill.

Harper's taste sound chic, yet he doesn't shy away from the realities of the food chain. His animals act like animals. It's clear that Harper observed his subjects with the transcendental eye of a naturalist before rendering them with, as he put it, "straight lines and curves."

If Harper's expression arrangements of cones, geometric shapes could serve as a graphic-design primer, he still is a prankster in nothin' short of impishness. The semicircle is an extremely difficult medium involving multiple steps and layers of color. One mezzanine benches the whole deal. For an artist who relies on crisp, sharp edges, the process is undergrating. It's important



to keep that process in mind when viewing Harper's works; these days, we're more accustomed to looking at digitally produced artwork, however creative and well designed, does not require such a

steady hand.

Harper had the conscience of a conservationist and lent his talents to many a wildlife organization; this exhibit includes, for example, a large-scale poster he created for the Michigan National Park Service, layered with creatures and leaves. And there's his print titled "Backhoeosaurus" in which a backhoe is digging up animal skeletons, displacing a number of birds, flowers, worms and bugs. The artist knows what is presumably commercial development to "a mindless dreamer inventing the landscape." Not so funny, that.

Harper spent most of his adult life in Connecticut where he studied, and later taught at, the Art Academy. He also worked with his wife and fellow artist at Harper Studios; their only child, Brett, eventually joined them.

In 2006, the mayor of Connecticut proclaimed December 5 Charley Harper Day, in conjunction with an exhibit at the Contemporary Arts Center of "mid-century modernism and contemporary poets." The exhibit was inspired by Harper's mentorship of graphic and fashion designer Todd Oldham, who said that the older artists work possessed a "lyrically joyous style." Indeed, only a hardened cynic could resist feeling just a bit happier after viewing Harper's prints. In 2000, Oldham published a book of Harper's work titled *Charley Harper: An Illustrated Diary*.

As soon a fairly-limply science museum, the Montshire's deeper-than-dual exhibits is a pleasantly dry assortment of dogs, bugs, rotors and other noises — courtesy of children exploring the surrounding lands on games itself, the Harper and OCS works occupying a spacious second-floor area represent the Montshire's conscious effort to enhance its reputation as a kid's science haven that isn't just for kids and science lovers. Offering a joyful, all-ages art exhibit is a good step in that direction.

Indeed, as exhibit director Rob Ruffalo says, "We convinced that there's a connection in how scientists and artists do their stuff. It's all creativity." ☺

PAMELA FOLSTON

Beguiled by the Wild: The Art of Charley Harper" opens at the Montshire Museum of Science, Norwich. Through February 3; montshire.org



Sandra Heller Bissess

Sandra Heller Bissess As a child growing up in New Jersey, Sandra Heller Bissess began thinking about color and light because her father always pointed out the subtleties of the natural world to her. As an adult, and after moving with her two sons to central Vermont in 1968, she began studying calligraphy and got a job as calligrapher for the state's department of education. Eventually, Bissess took the leap to making her own art, incorporating photography and stencils head-on into collages that focus on the very thing her dad once observed: the interplay of dark and light. You'll find her most recent work in an exhibitly blogspotpage shown through December 31, the Rhine County Gallery at Arts Connection. Pictured: "Stone Abstraction."

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

FOR CARTOON STUDIES: Through February 3 at
Museum of the City of New York, 1220 York Ave.,
New York, NY 10021. Info: 212/677-3000.

CELEBRATE: Locally made pottery serves parting presents. Pottery barns, whimsical cards, jewelry and more are on sale for the holiday. Through December 31 at Studio Place Arts in Davis. Info: 424-7069

CAMPION HUNTERS Hunt! painted B&W stills. Through December 31st. Collectors — the Art of Golf in Viewbook, p. 457. 1248

Exhibitions: "photographs of the man's historic work and timely commentaries. Through December Fiat Man Direct Museum is 10% to four June on info: 326.3770.

ELLEN URBAN Minor Manner on the Wall: A variety of manner is artist, multi ceramic frame. Through January 7 at Contemporary Curator, 2, E. 11th, 15000 of Minneapolis. Tel: 612-467-9179.

EXPRESSIONS. Bronze and aluminum casts, wall sculptures made from found objects and abstract paintings by Herta and Paul Amirani; Bill, Pat, Russ, and Judy Amirani and Johanne Gumpster. Through January 23 at www.museumofart.org.

HOLIDAY SHOW: Hobbies and gifts, including small, unfinished puzzles for holiday fun, through January 27 at Task Force Framing & Quilts, 19 White River Junction, 864-350-3000.

WOLFFSTADT SHOWS 2012 Works created under \$1000 Through January 15 at BigBrain Gallery in Rochester Info: 781 5622

GRAY-NICHOLSEN FERRY Grassy Green
Barnes Farmstead, 1000 Barnes Farm Road, Vergennes

Through January 1st at Rochester Bakery & Café in
Hillsdale. Info: 488-3995.

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Hitchcock ★★

What do you do when you're decided to make a movie based on a book entitled *Alfred Hitchcock and the Making of Psycho* but haven't been able to secure the rights to use even a single frame of *Psycho* III? Well, if you're director Saula Gerascanovic and screenwriter John J. McLaughlin, you attempt to compensate — or, perhaps, to distract — by making a movie based mostly on inference, innuendo and occasional known

Mitchell is being marketed as a portrait of a mainstream filmmaker—a man whose offering the picture that would prove his greatest commercial success, but it's less about going behind the scenes than about going behind closed doors. Amongst *Blindfire*'s crew are the least noteworthy performers of his career in a lead role. It doesn't help that he gives it a fit rate and under equality as: increasing, based production, or that much of the time he sounds more like Hirschfeld. Leona does the film's subject, Helen Mirren, comes in Anna Karenina, the country's first and collaboration.

In adapting Stephen Sabello's 1990 chronicle of *Popeye's* production, the screenwriter has taken a number of liberties. The number is a large one. While *Haddock* is

just with the director coming off the triumph of *North by Northwest* and resolving to show audiences he still has a few tricks up his sleeve at 50, the movie's focus quickly shifts from public relations to private ones.

The filmmakers proceed to offer a portrait of the completely domestic life that is the most part unaccounted for by fact, an existence McLaughlin engineers as a cross between an *Elvis* housewife and a sitcom. Many scenes, for example, concern awkward attempts by the corpulent Alford to seduce his crumbing-for-food and drink with-out getting caught in the act by Alma. There are references to "you, you know" the signs upon discovering an empty room were given her, stuffed while reading the pre-published *Psycho*. The pair take shop at night (sneaking into her bed like *Wally* and Theodore from

It's not sure which is more outcome: the series of fantasy sequences in which Hatchcock interacts with Ed Tully (Michael Winscott), the Wisconsin serial killer who provided the basis for the mass shooter in Robert Raskin's best seller, or the bare-knuckle Al Pacino's coarseness. However, we're not to wonder about the motives of a writer and director who no longer informs the viewer that Alvin made irreparable contributions to his



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kindred a much less they proceed to paint her as an attention-starved woman capable of betraying him with a studio back (Dorothy Huston).

I found myself wondering about the filmmaker's motives a lot. I'm not sure why he went to the trouble of demystifying Elrod's struggle to get the milestone business movie made over the objections of Paramount brass (even taking out a loan on his home to finance it himself) when their real interests clearly were his obscenity suit and those

An immediate portion of this film's running time is devoted to satisfying depictions of Hitchcock's well-known fallibilities and weaknesses. We watch Hapkins smoke stacks like a naughty boy gulp secret drinks, peer through his office blinds at women on the lot and inhale over 100 photographs

of freeloading looks like he's laughing at innocent puns. As if that weren't disgusting enough, we watch him spy on Vera Miles (Gloria Fofi) through a hole in the wall as she undresses, though zero evidence suggests this hooky creep did such a thing.

So much for the mystery of why Hitchcock's estate denied permission to see *Psycho* Escape. What ran one up, except that Hitchcock is a mediocre film tongue-tied concerned with the making of an emotional cool anyone with a passing knowledge of the movie or the man is unlikely to learn much new about either. Hitchcock's latest stretches the truth so frequently and so far it ends up less the story of the person behind *Psycho* than a bunch of incoherent honey traps to the birds.

RECEIVED 10/15/2008

REVIEWS

Silver Linings Playbook



A comedy about mental illness is hard to get right. It's all too easy for filmmakers to trivialize real problems like bipolar disorder by turning them into collections of adorable quips. But if they take a more poignantly correct course, where are the laughs? With *Silver Linings Playbook* opening in Vietnam on December 21st, writer-director David O. Russell makes a fine line between those two pitfalls and generally keeps his balance. The result is a romantic comedy for people who don't like what Hollywood has been calling "romantic comedies" these days.

Like the somewhat comicaler of yore, Silver Screen Playbook, based on Matthew Quirk's novel, is almost fearfully verbal. The forward pace and rhythm of the dialogue generates much of the humor, but they also reflect the perilously comic side of protagonist Ted Solomons (Bradley Cooper).

Pat — a thirtysomething who, at the time of writing, comes to law with his parents in suburban Philadelphia — has no social fears. Like many domestic manufacturers, he's in

capable of trust or subterfuge, bonding with adolescent confidantes, but the problems he faces are adult ones. Put in freely from right month to a mental institution, where he landed as part of a plea bargain after brutally assaulting his wife's lover. He's convinced that all he needs to do to win his wife back is prove himself a changed man.

Armed with this delusion, Pat is sweet, funny and, at times, downright scary and Cooper does justice in all these aspects. From an actor who has been deep-frying through his dramatic roles (though showing more kindness and compassion), it's a revelatory performance.

himself, whose specialty is visible screwed-up families like *The Fighter*, surrounds Pat with characters who remind us that mental illness is a spectrum, not an either/or. There's his dad (Robert De Niro), a boxer whose reckless English fondness easily qualifies as obsessive-compulsive, his mom (Jacki Weaver) who confides her husband's war games day after day, and her best friend (John Goodman) a model suburban dad on the verge of a personal heresy. And it's not all Pat encounters. Tiffani Thielen



HAS BEEN YOUR
LAWFIRM AND COOPERATIVE OWNER MAKING
THEIR OWN CULTURE'S DAY-TO-DAY CHOICES?

Lawrence), a young widow who shares his tendency to blurt out and set out what he needs, his search.

Given her youth, Lawrence's ending seems questionable on paper: He risks clearly telling her a woman who has lived, if not matured. That's exactly how Lawrence plays it, without a hint of apology. Telling her that number immediately, and to the person he loves — over his proclamation of eternal love for his returned spouse — the movie's central question becomes: Can two troubled people learn to live with each other's "issues," perhaps even to love each other?

In its second half Russell engineers a conflict that sends the movie toward something approximating a crowd-pleasing Hollywood finish. That comes — yes, it comes.

a damn-awful — feels a touch too forced to be entirely satisfying, but it doesn't damage a film whose real pleasure lies in getting to know these men and, somewhat characteristically,

Would you wish to be as easily to put and Thru if attractive movie stars weren't playing chess? Or would we focus solely on their dysfunction? (Todd Solondz's recent *Dark Horse* offers an alternative, almost unbelieveably grim vision of how a romance between two emotionally disturbed people might look.) It's hard to say. But the whole movie has an infectious reality tempered with surrealism, much like *Path's* out-lou-geriatric personal comedy. "If you stop playing, you have a choice to sit a while longer."

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Curses, Foiled Again

Authorities intercepted two boxes containing 100 grams of cocaine and 3 1/2 lbs of medium phosgene being shipped to the Philippines via FedEx, but they couldn't identify the sender until Federal Under-Narcotics, 72, of Bedford City, Calif., called FedEx two weeks later asking why his packages hadn't arrived and gave his name and whereabouts. (Palo Alto Daily News)

Naming Rights

The Weather Channel announced it is "the first national organization in North America to proactively name winter storms." TWX, which claims a 76 percent share of the U.S. weather audience, assumes other media and the government will also use its names. The consumer want and names will follow a Greek, Roman theme, starting with Afton, Brutus and Caesar, and be assigned to any state with the potential "no produce disruptive impacts including snowfall, ice, wind and temperature." One of TWX's few competitors, AccuWeather, didn't mention adopting its own names but expressed concern "about the lack of strict criteria with naming winter storms." TWX meteorologist Lynne Norcross said having everyone use TWX's name "will make fewer surprises and more preparation," making bad weather easier. (The Washington Post)

Mistakes Were Made

Jake Garcia claimed she was Christmas shopping at a Walmart store in San Antonio, Texas, and handed a \$100 bill to the cashier, who informed her the bill was fake and tore it in half "without performing any counterfeit detection test." When Garcia complained, the cashier called the manager. Garcia showed him a second \$100 bill, which he tore up. The manager then detained Garcia and called police. She said she was held for four hours at the front of the store, where store employees informed customers that Garcia was caught passing fake money. Police detained the bills and gave Garcia \$100. She then filed a complaint asking \$75,000 in damages from the store. (New York Daily News)

Beauty Under the Skin

A 44-year-old woman died and three others were hospitalized after receiving a beauty treatment at a Hong Kong clinic. The procedure involved blood transfusions and a hair transplant as a cosmetic treatment. Until its approval, however, it is being used for cosmetic purposes, according to Hong Kong's Hospital Authority, which reported the woman died of septic shock. (Associated Press)

Job Insecurity

Bahamas is taking jobs from dolphins working for the Navy. Starting in 2002, the service will replace 14 of its 60 min-harbor dolphins with 14-foot autonomous vehicles. The robots can be made quickly and used consistently whereas dolphins need seven years of training before they're able to work of underwater mines and terrorist divers. The displaced dolphins will join sea lions as part security guards. (Associated Press)

Under the Law's Nose

A thief nabbed a lithium boat where dozens of police officers, gathered from all over New Zealand for the National Police Festival Championships, were busy drinking. They didn't notice a hotel employee chasing the suspect, who stole a few hundred dollars from a cash drawer in another part of the hotel when the waiter stepped away for a moment. The suspect escaped, but police promised, "His arrest is imminent. We have good CCTV footage." (Oquirrhos The Mercury)

New Twist on Flashing

A bartender pulled police in Athens, Ohio, to report a man outside in the middle of the afternoon put a "Taser down his pants and was 'acting like it was his penis.'" According to the police report, "When people would walk by, he would shock it at them and would come in close to their necks from them and set the Taser off." He warned a few girls so much they crossed the street to get away. (Athens Banner Herald)

Better Than FEMA Trailers

New York City spent just under \$1 million for 140 hotel rooms that sat empty after Hurricane Sandy. The Department of Homeland Security moved the rooms at the midtown Manhattan Midland Plaza Hotel in case more displaced people wanted them, but none applied. The city, which relocated people from temporary shelters to 20 other hotels, expects FEMA to reimburse it. (The Wall Street Journal)

Who Reads Signs?

After two women entered Detroit's Eastern District police headquarters in last year carrying three hand grenades in a shopping bag, the station posted a sign on the door "NO WEAPONS OF ANY KIND (including hand grenades)." This November, a man brought a grenade in a shopping bag to the building. "I run him at the desk," officer Willie Smith said, "and he said he found it under his mother's porch." After evacuating the building, including about 30 prisoners, the bomb squad and Homeland Security personnel removed the grenade and detained it. (The Detroit News)



Sagittarius

1 May 2004-04 Jun 2004

In 2023, I pledge to compare with you to achieve more milestones, connections, records and celebrations than you ever thought possible. I will furthermore be a font of negotiations about how you can live well in two worlds. I will coach you to create a peace treaty with your old twin and your nemesis, and I will help you develop a plan for steering clear of other people's bad ideas and sour moods. I won't of course guarantee that you will never again experience a broken heart, but I swear I will do everything I can do to heal the broken part of your heart that you've been suffering from.

give your goodness more vigor. And when I say "bold" I'm not referring to naughtiness or insensitivity but rather to wildness and playfulness and age-inspiration. Here's one further service I want to provide: *Taurus*, helping you build a greater capacity to receive gifts, blessings and support.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) In the year 1900, Sir Jagadish Bose (a Hindu) believed that human beings would ever fly through the sky in machines. Most scientists thought that such a feat was impossible. For years the Wright brothers had a hard time convincing anyone to believe their flights were actually using "guts" even though they had photos and witness reports as documentation. Although the leap may not be capable of in 2010, still quite as monumental as the Wright brothers' is what is pretty amazing in the history of your own life. You may also have to deal with skepticism as to what they had to face. Go true to your vision. Good!

CANCER [June 20/July 20] In 2023 I predict you will stop worrying so much to phase out an influence you have based on faith for far too long. Unintentionally you will also have a talent for juggling emotional burdens and people's drama that you've been holding on to since the bad old days. No later than your birthday it all goes well; you will be free from a subtle curse you've been casting on yourself; you will finally be attending to one of your long-neglected needs, and you will have turned some former gloomy half-acted hostility into a smooth and pleasant face.

LED (July 29-Aug. 22) In 2010 I pledge to help you raise your locality. It's not that you are unlovable now of course, but there's always room for improvement, right? And if people become even more attracted to you than they already are, then you're likely to get a lot of collaboration and cooperative work done. You tell them as you and your allies work on projects that make your corner of the world a better and more interesting place. So what are the first three actions you could take to raise your locality?

VIRGO (Aug. 23/Sept. 21) First question: Have you ever thought to yourself, "I should be more successful than I am"? Second question: Are you the happiest person alive, considering your highest level? Answer: "There's a very good chance that in the coming year you will surpass that far from the second in age of your imagination. Second question: Have you ever wondered if maybe you unconsciously undermine the efforts of people who are trying to reach your level? In the coming year, you should discover exactly what to do to prevent such a thing from happening. Third question: Do you know the single most important question you should be asking in 2013? Answer: The product you will figure that out sometime in the next three months."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) In 2023 I will be encouraging you to journey into the frontiers and experiment with the unknown. I will seek to inspire you to go in search of teachings you've needed for a long time. Are you ready for this expansion, Libra? Are you feeling

natural urge to explore forbidden zones and discover missing secrets and mess with your outmoded taboos? As you might imagine, doing this work would motivate you to develop a healthier relationship with your fears. To bolster your courage, I suggest you find some new forbidden zones to visit.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) In 2013, you will do what I call "enrich" that your financial horoscope are in close alignment with the universal good flow. You should have plenty good contacts about the working project. You'll prosper And to finish an important work. You'll think that your new and old friends will be constantly achieving about how you share your riches and benefit other people with your generosity. I think there will be a lot of interesting things benefit if you maintain maximum integrity as you enhance your access to valuable resources. You will develop a more useful relationship with your boss. (www.astrocenter.com)

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): When he was 21, the Capricorn writer John Updike set out to grasp for gold in the 1947 Kennedy election. He had a rough time there, but found the suffering from scarcity and big pay. To make matters worse, he didn't find much gold and returned home broke. On the other end of the scale, scores of adolescents are flocking to him and his books. Updike's career has taken a much more painful for him than the call of gold. After graduating at Wellesley from famous and is generally regarded as his masterpiece. The young man's career has taken a similar trajectory in 2019. Capricorns. Even if that may at first seem less than successful, it will likely be based on his books and career.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) I work hard for you to seek many pleasures in 2013. I want to see you to play harder and explore the frontiers of feeling today's world. However, I will say this: If you don't plan to put yourself into at least partial alignment with the cosmic universe to have maximum fun, you may not get the best use out of the advice I'll be offering through my horoscopes in the coming year. Please consider the possibility of ramping up your cosmic connection. www.astrology.com

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) The study of ancient Mayan calendars seems a lot like the first-time Americans started buying lots of chewing gum in the late 19th century. Here's the connoisseur: For a long time, this was one of the prime ingredients in Chicle Juicy Fruit. Aniseed and many other brands of chewing gum. Chicle is obtained from the sap of sapotilla trees, which grow in abundance in Central America and Mexico. One day, the natives were harvesting the chicle accidentally found out by Mayan-Americans in immigrant registration. They told an American geologist about their discovery. "I saw a movie showing all the companies I acquired in happening in your life during 1913. In unexpected ways, you will be cut but in touch with and from the front. The people are uneducated parts of the

Upload something I DCA'd this week

WGNM
CHANNEL 18
CHANGING TO
NASTY & STECH
VARIETY HOUR (LIVE)
MONDAYS - 7 PM

retn
CHORUS
MONDAY 12-24-13 PM
VMD ORG RESTRALOGIA

Channel 17
TOWARDS
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& Special treats available from
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2777 VI Route 3, Frontsight
(old Honey Gardens honey house)

BLISS BY HARRY BLISS



*telling you what? i'm feeling frisky — let's go shopping

TED RALL

SHOCKING SHOCKING SHOCKING THAT A MORALLY UPSTANDING
INSTITUTION AS THE CIA WOULD HAVE SUCH DIRT AT THE TOP



1999

LULU EIGHTBALL

PLAYAN PROPHECY THE UNBELIEVERS



<p>#1473 Life's Little Victories!!</p> <p>THE K CHRONICLES</p>	<p>#1474 GOING SHOPPING FOR A CHRISTMAS TREE</p>	<p>#1475 FINDING THE PERFECT ONE IN LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES!! YES!!</p>
<p>#1476 THE LOCAL POST OFFICE WAS EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS.</p> <p>Yippee...</p>	<p>#1477 THE LOCAL POST OFFICE WAS EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS.</p> <p>Yippee...</p>	<p>#1478 YOU PICK UP SOMETHING BECAUSE OF A CASHLESS GIFT EXCHANGE...</p>
<p>#1479 IT SOUNDS JUST ENOUGH TO COME EVERYTHING...</p>	<p>#1480 HOLIDAY WORK PARTIES KEEP YOU FROM DRINKING ALL WEEK LONG...</p>	<p>#1481 GARDENING HIS GARDENS RIGHT WHEN YOU NEED SOME LAUNDRY MONEY!!</p>

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOUCHROW





RED MEAT

metaphysics for the morose

from the master class of
MAX CANNON

Tiny Sepuku @ 2012

Dear Tiny,
my brother was a victim of getting
me gifts I don't like. Now he's
stuck in Tumblr prison. It's
ridiculous what you children?

-Tina
Seattle, Canada



AMERICAN ELF

THE SKETCHBOOK SERIES
OF JAMES MCDERMOTT

BLIND BRAIN



NO REGRETS



BRUSH RUSH



MORE FUN: STRAIGHT DOPE (PG 4) NEWS BIRDS (PG 5) & FREE WILL ASTROLOGY (PG 6)

CROSSWORDS (PG 4) & CALCULUS & SUDDEN (PG 5)



WOMEN *looking4*

NAUGHTY LOCAL GIRLS NEED A DATE

I've never felt so wanted and loved before every naughty girl I chose simply needs to put me on her mind and give me a spanking. I'm only a naughty teenager (18-year-old) but I'm ready to take someone who can keep up. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

LATELY I'M

Looking for some fun, naughty encounters that will rock my world. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

SPARKING MY DESIRES

Something about me and my beautiful features makes me look like I can have fun in many locations... in 2012, come. Come without me to the end of the world or anywhere. I'm not a beautiful angel, but I am a sexy woman who will have you going up for more. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

CRISPY

Need a girl that brings the heat to my life. I'm 18, I'm looking for girls, guys, couples that live with this, you can easily understand and understand looking to do this advantage of uncontrollable love. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

NAUGHTY LOCAL GIRLS WANT TO SPANK WITH YOU
1-888-420-SABE
69%

PASSION THIRSTY FOR LOVE

I'm looking for someone who will not only be a good lover but also a good friend. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

MAJESTICLY DESIROUS

I'm looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

COUNTRY CUTE NEEDS A DATE

I'm looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

HEARTY FOR LIES

Looking for someone who will not only be a good lover but also a good friend. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

POLYGRAPHIC

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

GIFT ME, LOOKING FOR A DATE

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

LAG OF MYST

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

BEYOND RED

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

MEN *looking4*

WANT FOR HOTTER OR COOLER

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

ANGELIC LOWER

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

FULL OUTRAGED LAD-BACK SLAP ATTRACTIVE

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

JUST WANTING TO FULFILL MY DREAMS

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

OPENED READER NOTES BECAUSE

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

NOTHING BUT PLEASURE

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

AFFECTATION: GENTLE YET RIGID ADJUSTMENTS

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

UPPERING AUTOGRAPH NEEDS

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

ROOT PRINTER LEVER

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

OTHER BELIEVING

GIRL NEEDING OTHER

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

HEAVEN HELLION NEEDS OTHER

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

TESTING THE WATER

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

COULD BEHOLDING FOR SOME FUN

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

KIRBY CLOUTIER NEEDS OTHER

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

NOTHING BUT PLEASURE

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

WE WANT SEX PROBLEM

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

CURIOUS GENUINE COURTESY

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

Your guide to love and lust...

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

Dear Mistress

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

Dear Mistress Blue

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

Need advice?

Looking for a good friend who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. I'm looking for a guy who can keep up with me. [Reply to this post](#) 4/10/12

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